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**Special Issue: NWA, AWA, AND WWF
WORLD TAG TITLES IN TURMOIL!**

47727 February 1986
\$1.75 / \$2.00 Canada

Wrestling

**Victims Of Circumstance Or Conspiracy?
THREE FORMER CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS
FACE THE BATTLE OF
THEIR LIVES!**



• The Rock 'n' Roll Express

• The Road Warriors

• Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff

**Special
Feature:**

**BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
COMPARES HIS SONS KENDELL
& BARRY WINDHAM**

Barry Windham





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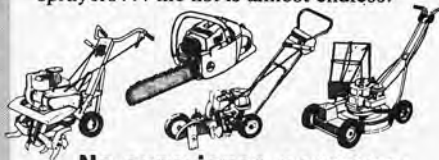
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SKINNY ISN'T ATTRACTIVE

If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthy. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

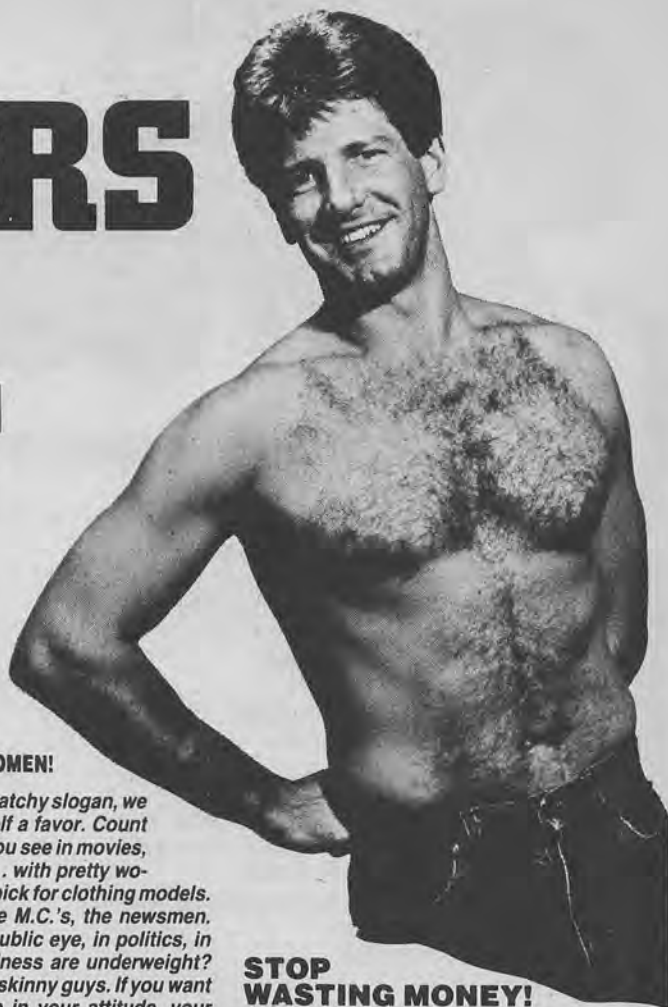
Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

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THE MAGAZINE THAT RIPS
THE LID OFF PRO WRESTLING

INSIDE

Wrestling

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INSIDE WRESTLING is published monthly by G.C. London Publishing Corp., Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Single copy price \$1.75. Annual subscription rate \$21.00. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope, bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher. All rights reserved.

Next issue on sale January 7

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ROCKY IV

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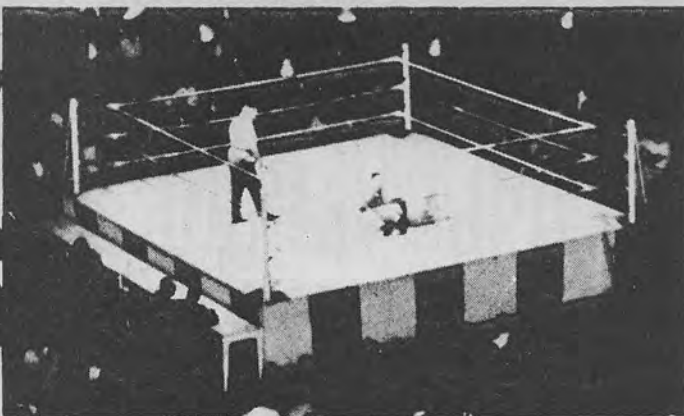
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VIVA ARRIBA

Thank you so very much for your inspiring article about my favorite wrestler, Tito Santana, in the December issue of *Inside Wrestling* ("Intercontinental Champion . . . Again: The Resurrection Of Tito Santana"). It is

about time he received some recognition and that something is printed about this handsome and tremendously gifted wrestler. It is heartwarming to read such an excellent, stirring, and truthful story.

The facts mentioned about Tito's

participation in WrestleMania were very interesting. It is also time Tito is recognized as the fine athlete and true gentleman that he is. He has always been a quiet champion and has worn his belt with honor. Tito relies on his abilities, not media hype, like that loud and talent-lacking Hulk Hogan to win over fans.

Tito has certainly faced his wrestling career with courage, great determination, and above all, honesty to himself. What more can you ask of a human being? He is truly our hero! He deserves the very best and has worked hard and earned his success. Thank you again.

WALLIE MILLER
Fairview, PA



Tito Santana shocks The Iron Sheik and the referee (background) with his display of strength. Tito is considered by reader Wallie Miller to be a great Intercontinental champion who has earned every bit of success he has had.

WWF UPDATE

An open letter to Vince McMahon:

When I tuned in to *Tuesday Night Titans* (on Friday night?), I expected to watch wrestling action, not idiotic drivel.

Wrestling is a fine sport and not one that should be misrepresented in the fashion that you do. Watching Jimmy Hart lip-synch a song is not my idea of wrestling action. Granted, you do some short clips of wrestling in between your vaudeville acts, but usually they match a big name against a no-name. This is not worth my time. I don't know anyone who enjoys your shows. I know I don't anymore.

I watched *Titans* twice to give you the benefit of the doubt. I didn't see anything that would merit my attention. When I watch a football game, there are no stupid interviews showing
(Continued on page 64)

COMING DECEMBER 24th: **THE BIG ONE!**

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Special features and columns

**Exclusive "PWIndex" of every wrestler
who appeared in the pages of *PWI* for the entire year!**

*PWI's Year-End Double Issue is cover-dated "March 1986"
On Sale December 24*



The World's Largest-Selling Wrestling Magazine—By Far!

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter
King

Editor-in-Chief

During 1983 and 1984, it was the most spectacular sight in sports. Jimmy Snuka climbing to the top of a steel cage and leaping to victory. But in 1985, Snuka has made a far more dangerous leap: to the brink of disaster.

The Jimmy Snuka story is as mystifying as the man is charismatic. Why was he bounced from the WWF at the peak of his popularity? Did Vince McMahon fire him? Has he been put on double-secret probation? Will the Jimmy Snuka doll mysteriously vanish from the toy stores like the man himself has vanished from arenas? Just what is the real story of Jimmy Snuka?

Titan Sports will not comment whether Snuka has been fired by the WWF. But he hasn't been on a WWF wrestling show in months. (Currently, Snuka is wrestling part-time for a small promotion in Hawaii.) According to an inside source at the WWF, Snuka is no longer in the WWF because he became a "problem child." Maybe you can figure out what that means.

In attempting to uncover why Snuka was let go by the WWF, we have been met with enormous roadblocks. Unlike baseball and football, which have decided that short-term embarrassment to the sport is preferable to long-term damage to its participants, wrestling still has that old-line mentality concerning the problems of the modern athlete: sweep it under the rug, forget about it, and hope it goes away.

But the spectre of Jimmy Snuka will not go away. He is one of the most talented athletes in any sport, and, if this man is indeed in trouble, he must be helped. To ignore that something strange has happened to Jimmy Snuka's career is inexcusable. Yet the WWF, while licensing Snuka's likeness for a kid's doll and a CBS cartoon series, seems to have forgotten the man himself. At least publicly.

It was Snuka's leap that helped make wrestling boom. It would be sadly ironic if his downfall brings about the sport's demise.

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Naturally, you're wondering what all this is — but I'm not going to tell you here. No, it's going to cost you ten

For the past two decades Du Vall has captured the imagination of men and women the world over by providing solid, unique direction for their quest for financial freedom. His firm is headquartered in Michigan with international marketing offices in Hong Kong (known as DAX International, John W. Lane, President). In addition to producing some three dozen publications on money-making/self-improvement themes, DuVall is also the creator of the popular Derek Dax adventure/mystery/romance series and the author of the political intrigue novel, "The Big Dream" (published by Lyle Stuart, Inc., New York). Unlike most, he has never had to resort to outlandish money-back guarantees to attract only the finest DAX-DOERS worldwide and no such policy is expressed or implied.

His writings have been used in numerous style and content workshops and accredited courses at such institutions as California State University, UCLA, Fordham, University of Illinois and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

smackers to find out. But I will tell you what it *isn't* so you'll not be off on some wild goose chase:

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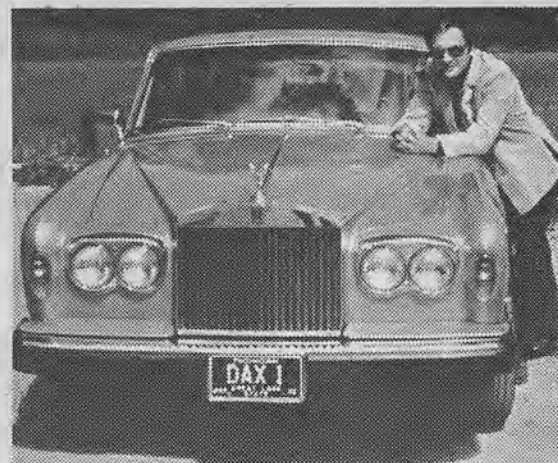
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— Dean F. V. Du Vall

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TOP SECRET

Behind the Dressing Room Door

by **Stu
Saks**

DUSTY RHODES CAN tell you about pain. He's so proud of that fact that he often can be seen wearing a T-shirt proclaiming it. Yes, Dusty Rhodes knows about pain, perhaps more than any wrestler of the past 20 years.

The battle scars on his face are obvious. What is not so obvious are the broken bones that did not mend properly, the joints that don't line up as they are supposed to, the lack of cartilage between his bones, the ligaments that are stretched so far that they'll never return to normal. "Sure, I'm a mess," Dusty says, "but you have to expect that in this line of work. If you can't take it, you shouldn't be a wrestler."

It's not all that simple. Dusty Rhodes and athletes like him can learn to live with scars on their bodies, but it's the invisible injuries that can—and will—have an effect on their careers, and their later lives.

Dusty can tell you about pain. He can tell you about the pain in his heart when a man he thought was his friend and for whom he was willing to risk everything to save him from a horrendous three-on-one attack suddenly decided to put a knife in his back—or more accurately a knee to his left ankle.

That ankle was badly damaged at The Omni when Flair jumped down upon Rhodes from the top rope while the Andersons held him down to the mat. The first medical findings reported that the ankle was broken. But from what I understand, that's the least of Dusty's problems. His biggest problem is that the ligaments and tissue around the ankle sustained heavy damage. In effect, Dusty's ankle is not only broken, it is sprained as well.

Don't me misled by the word sprain. A sprain is defined as the stretching or tearing of the ligaments

(Continued on page 50)

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THERE I WAS, lying on the floor of my co-op apartment, comfortably digesting another excellent home-cooked meal. I was flipping casually through 34 channels of cable television. My wife, Barbara, who can't watch TV for more than 30 seconds or so when I'm in a channel-scanning mood, was reading the paper.

Nothing good on HBO **click** nothing on ESPN, either **click** VH-1 looks boring **click** Showtime? I've seen this show before **click** The Disney Channel has another boring movie **click** nothing good on . . . *whaaaaaaat?*

And there they were—on MTV yet! Everybody in the WWF bopping along to a new and peculiarly twisted version of "Land Of 1,000 Dances"—a version that, I'm sure, would have Fats Domino (who co-wrote the song) and Wilson Pickett (who did, to my ear, the definitive version) wondering where they'd gone wrong.

"Look at this!" I yelled, almost causing Barbara to spill her coffee all over her newspaper.

"What's with all the people," Barbara asked, "another charity video? It's not U.S.A. For Africa, and it's not FarmAid, and it's not Band Aid, and it's not the Sun City video, and it's not . . ."

"No, this is the MTV video that the WWF produced from their wrestling record album."

"Oh, is that the album they played during intermission at the matches in Madison Square Garden last Monday night and everyone booed?"

"Look at this, it looks like they got all the wrestlers together to give a concert."

"So how come we didn't get a pair of complimentary tickets?" Barbara loves a freebie almost as much as I do.

"No, it's a soundstage. They didn't *really* give a concert. Check this out: good guys on the left, bad guys on the right, and the band is in the middle."

"Let's see how long *that* lasts."

"Here comes the first vocal: it's Mr. Fuji."

"What did he say? 'You got to know how to pony?' Do you think Mr. Fuji knows how to do the pony?"

"There's the Missing Link. He looks pretty disoriented."

"Isn't that Fred Blassie? I like him, he's a snappy dresser."

"That's him, but I liked him better a couple of years ago when he sang 'Pencil-Necked Geek' and 'King Of Men.' Too bad they didn't have MTV back then. He's lost in the shuffle in this song."

"I like that T-shirt Magnificent Muraco's wearing."

"Yeah, it's a WWF T-shirt, but it looks like the Warner Bros. logo. I wonder how Epic records feels about that."

"And there's Roddy Piper. It looks like he's having fun singing his *na-na-na-nas*. I though he *hated* rock

ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

'n' roll."

"He does, but I guess he—oh, no, there's Vince McMahon!"

"What'd he say?"

"He sang, 'I said clap your hands.'"

And when Vinnie tells these wrestlers to clap, boy, they'd better clap."

"They're clapping, all right. Hey—that drummer looks like Meat Loaf!"

"I think it *is* Meat Loaf! Maybe he signed with the WWF and he's going to tag team with King Kong Bundy."

"Where's Cyndi Lauper? How come she isn't in this video?"

"Good question. She let some of these wrestlers be in *her* video, it only seems fair that they let her be in this one, but I don't see her. Wait—there's her boyfriend Dave Wolff. Is that her, with all the makeup on, next to him?"

"I don't think so."

"No, that's gotta be her, next to the bald guy. Just look at her mouth, that's definitely Lauper. And I think that's Rick Derringer there, too."



Good guys on the left . . .

"Rick Derringer?"

"Yeah, remember the song 'Rock 'n' Roll Hoochie Koo'?"

"Lordy, mamma, light my fuse."

"That's the one. You know, I love all of these tilted camera angles."

"Reminds me of the fight scenes in the old *Batman* series. Hey, who's that guy?"

"That's S.D. Jones, I don't think he's won a match in years."

"He looks a lot like Clarence Clemons."

"Maybe he can play saxophone better than he can wrestle. Look at that, there's Arnold Skaaland smoking a cigar, and there's Gorilla Monsoon, and look, it's even Howie Finkel."

"I like how Paul Orndorff is kissing his biceps in time to the song; I didn't realize he was so musical. Say, where's Hulk Hogan in all of this?"

"Hey, that's right, I haven't seen him. Maybe he's busy training for his next-title match in Madison Square Garden, whenever that's gonna be. I don't see Andre in there, either. Look, there's Vinnie again."

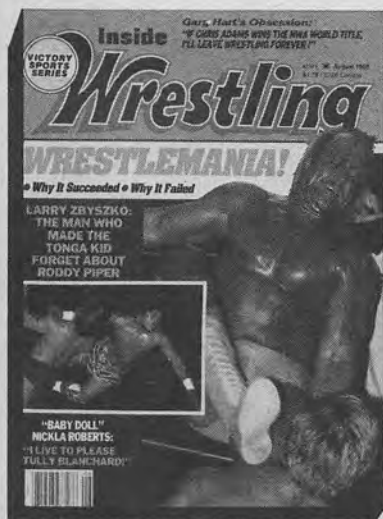
(Continued on page 62)

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NAMES MAKING

Barry Windham returned to the Florida area as he dramatically ran into the ring in Tampa to save his father **Blackjack Mulligan** and his brother **Kendell Windham** after they were brutalized by **Kevin Sullivan**. "Me and dad were wrestling Kevin and **Maya Singh**," Kendell told me, "and Sullivan just went wild with his spike maneuver. The referee couldn't control him—he even went after **Lady Maxine**, who was just standing at ringside. Thank goodness for Barry. I'm glad he



BARRY & KENDELL WINDHAM

was there that night. And it looks like he's going to be sticking around Florida for a while, which is something I'm looking forward to!"

Lance Von Erich is now wrestling in the World Class area, and if you've never heard the name before, you may be surprised to find out that you probably know of the man. Until very recently, Lance (the cousin of **Kerry**, **Kevin**, and **Mike Von Erich**) wrestled in the Pacific Northwest under the name **Ricky Vaughn**. "I didn't want to ride to the top of the ratings simply on the basis of what my cousins have



LANCE VON ERICH

done in Texas and on the fact that I have the same name," Lance said, "I wanted to establish myself first on my own credentials. Capturing the Pacific Northwest title in that tournament in August, I believe, finally did that for me." Lance, who still holds the PNW title and is wrestling regularly in the World Class area, recently signed for his first NWA World title shot against **Ric Flair**.

A cage match in Philadelphia recently saw a bloody melee between the team of **Bruno Sammartino** and **Paul Orndorff** and the pairing of **Roddy Piper** and **Cowboy Bob Orton**. Orndorff climbed over the top of the cage first to win the match for his team . . . **The Fantastics** are headed to the Mid-Southern area . . . The World Class tag team title is held up while ex-champions **Gino Hernandez** and **Chris Adams** are investigated for allegedly loading their masks (which they now wear to hide their heads that were shaved bald by **Kerry**

and **Kevin Von Erich** in the Cotton Bowl on October 6) . . . WWC Universal champion **Carlos Colon** scored an important title victory in San Juan, Puerto Rico, when he forced **Hercules Hernandez** to submit to his figure-four leglock.

On behalf of himself and his tag team **The Road Warriors**, **Precious Paul Ellering** has made a rather grisly announcement. "I would like to say that The Legion of Doom has purchased six prime plots in a Minneapo-



ELLERING & THE WARRIORS

lis graveyard, one each for **Michael Hayes**, **Terry Gordy**, **Buddy Roberts**, **Jim Garvin**, **Sunshine**, and **Steve Regal**. I've also purchased a maintenance contract with the graveyard to be certain that these plots, once filled, will be kept appropriately beautiful in perpetuity. I'm also shopping for headstones. Get the message, people?" Due to the interference of

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

Hayes, Regal and Garvin recently ended the Warriors' AWA World tag team reign that began last August 25.

Rick Rude is now wrestling in the World Class area, again managed by **Percy Pringle**; Rude is currently feuding with World Class American champion **Iceman Parsons** ... **Kendell Windham** is the acknowl-



KEVIN SULLIVAN

edged Florida champion, but **Kevin Sullivan** has the belt itself. The NWA is going to be fining Sullivan \$100 for each day he continues to keep the stolen belt ... Wouldn't it be nice if the NWA would take the same action against **Arn Anderson**, who stole **Dusty Rhodes'** NWA TV championship belt? Anderson seems to be trying to stock a trophy room: He recently tried to add **Wahoo McDaniel's** Southern title belt to his collection, but **Magnum T.A.** ran into the ring to prevent the theft.

Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka is wrestling regularly in Hawaii, where he is looking for a title shot at Polynesian Pacific champion **Lars Anderson** ... **Dick Slater**, aided by his valet, **Dark Journey**, is after the \$50,000 bounty on the head of North American champion **Butch Reed** placed by NWA World champion **Ric Flair** ... **Chris Youngblood**, brother of the late **Jay Youngblood**, is wrestling in tag team matches with his brother **Mark Youngblood** in Puerto Rico.

Capt. Lou Albano is now managing **The British Bulldogs**, and WWF observers are saying that this could mark yet another championship team in the Captain's record book. Albano seems to have undercut **Jesse "The**



JESSE VENTURA

Body" Ventura, who had been reportedly seeking a managerial contract with **Dynamite Kid** and **Davey Boy Smith** ... **Bob Backlund** has been named assistant wrestling coach at Central Connecticut State University.



BOB BACKLUND

Looks like the former WWF champ might be out of the mat wars for a while ... **Jesse Barr** is currently the number one contender to the WWC North American title held by **Hercules Ayala**.

Ted DiBiase is claiming that he advised **Ivan Koloff** in their NWA World tag team title victory over **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**. In the wake of DiBiase's disparaging comments about **Rick Morton** and **Robert Gibson**, Gibson's brother **Rick Gibson**, who has been out of the sport for two years due to injuries, has appeared in the Mid-South area to feud with DiBiase.

And don't forget to watch me on "Scouting Report" on WTBS' *Best Of World Championship Wrestling* every Sunday evening at 7:05 p.m. (Eastern time).

That's all for now, wrestling fans. See you at the matches! □

BACK ISSUES OF

Inside Wrestling

Be sure to fill in the gaps in your collection of **INSIDE WRESTLING**. "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts—order today!

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August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.

September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

November 1974/Stories include: Garvin, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

June 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.

August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiant, Gagne.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

February 1977/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

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October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

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March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

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November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

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March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

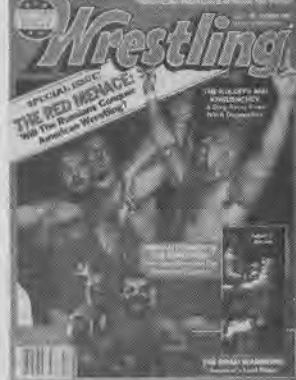
May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

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July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.



OCTOBER 1985

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

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October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Al, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestling II, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

INSIDE WRESTLING

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February 1975/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Brisco, Sheik.

June 1975/Stories include: Andre, Muraco, Funk, Lawler.

July 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Sammartino, Race, Rhodes.

August 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Patterson, Stasiak, Rivera.

December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

January 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Wrestling II, Rhodes.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

July 1976/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

November 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

December 1976/Stories include: Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.

January 1977/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

February 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

April 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

May 1977/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.

June 1977/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

July 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.

October 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

November 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

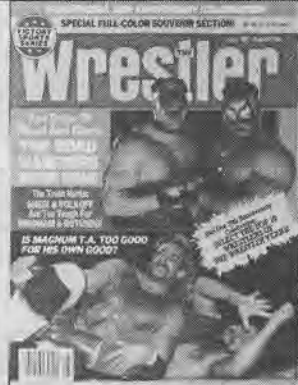
September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

November 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.



AUGUST 1985

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

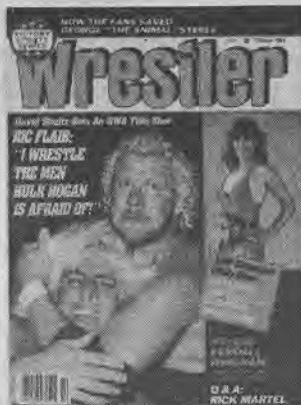
May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.



OCTOBER 1985

November 1980/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

March 1981/Stories include: Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.

May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

December 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

March 1983/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.

June 1985/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.

July 1985/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

September 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

October 1985/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.

November 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

December 1985/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

THE WRESTLER

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THE

By Eddie Ellner

NO MATTER HOW hard I try, I am unable to juke the WWF. I caught this month's column at the goal line . . . Racing to my left, I shredded the recent TNT featuring the Fuji Bandito, the one where they have Fabulous Moolah portraying a saucy Western barfly; a head-fake and a sharp slice to the right left the WWF/MTV video "Land of 1,000 Dances" eating grass . . . Passing the 40, I stiff-armed the fact that Hulk Hogan has not defended his title in Madison Square Garden in five months . . . I crossed midfield and simply outran "Land of 1,000 Dances," which had risen again and was in hot pursuit . . . I thought I was home free as I crossed the 20. I turned and began to taunt, raising my pen high above my head, shouting "You'll not see the print of my column this month, ya rummies!" when **SMACK!** I was flipped to the ground by the live "Piper's Pit" segment with Bruno Sammartino at Madison Square Garden. I fell heavily. I fumbled my pen. And here I is. Again. In the spleen of Vinnie's Organization. This job is heck.

As a child, life began and ended for me with the wrestling shows at Madison Square Garden. The hawkish implorings of ticket scalpers. The anticipatory buzz of the crowd as it piled down Seventh Ave., past the row of fast food joints, bookstores, souvenir stands and into the Garden. The nondescript, four-page programs that underscored the importance



In a 1985 version of a Madison Square Garden main event, Roddy Piper interviews former WWF champion Bruno Sammartino (above). Ah, some action: Piper, after being shoved by Bruno for calling him a wop, slams a chair across the "Living Legend's" back (below).



of the card in their simplicity. And the cards! Pedro Morales against Don Leo Jonathan. Bruno vs. Stan Stasiak for the WWF title. Verne Gagne and Ray Stevens for the AWA title. The Spoiler battling Mil Mascaras. Victor Rivera going at John Tolos. Moondog Mayne and Chief Jay Strongbow.

The magic that the Garden lent to these cards has, I admit, been embellished by the sympathetic haze of memory and by a little boy's wondrous perspective. But not by much. What I remember most is the remarkable edge that the wrestlers displayed. To wrestle in the Garden was not only a treat for the fans to watch. The wrestlers themselves often fought beyond their capabilities, the famed Garden rafters providing inspiration, coaxing them into once-a-lifetime performances.

Love it or hate it, we must concede that New York inspires. If they scream for a curtain call in the Big Apple you know you've made it. To be part of a standing ovation at the Garden is to be part of history. The hairs on your body electrify, your face flushes, your legs tremble. Those who claim that the arena makes the event are referring to Madison Square Garden as the arena.

I say to all you WWF fans who write me letters, who call me muckraker and a dumb donkey and things not nearly as complimentary, that the memory of those hallowed Garden shows are being desecrated by moments like

(Continued on page 20)

NEXT TIME GINO CHEATS DON'T JUST SIT THERE RAM HIS HEAD INTO THE TURNBUCKLE



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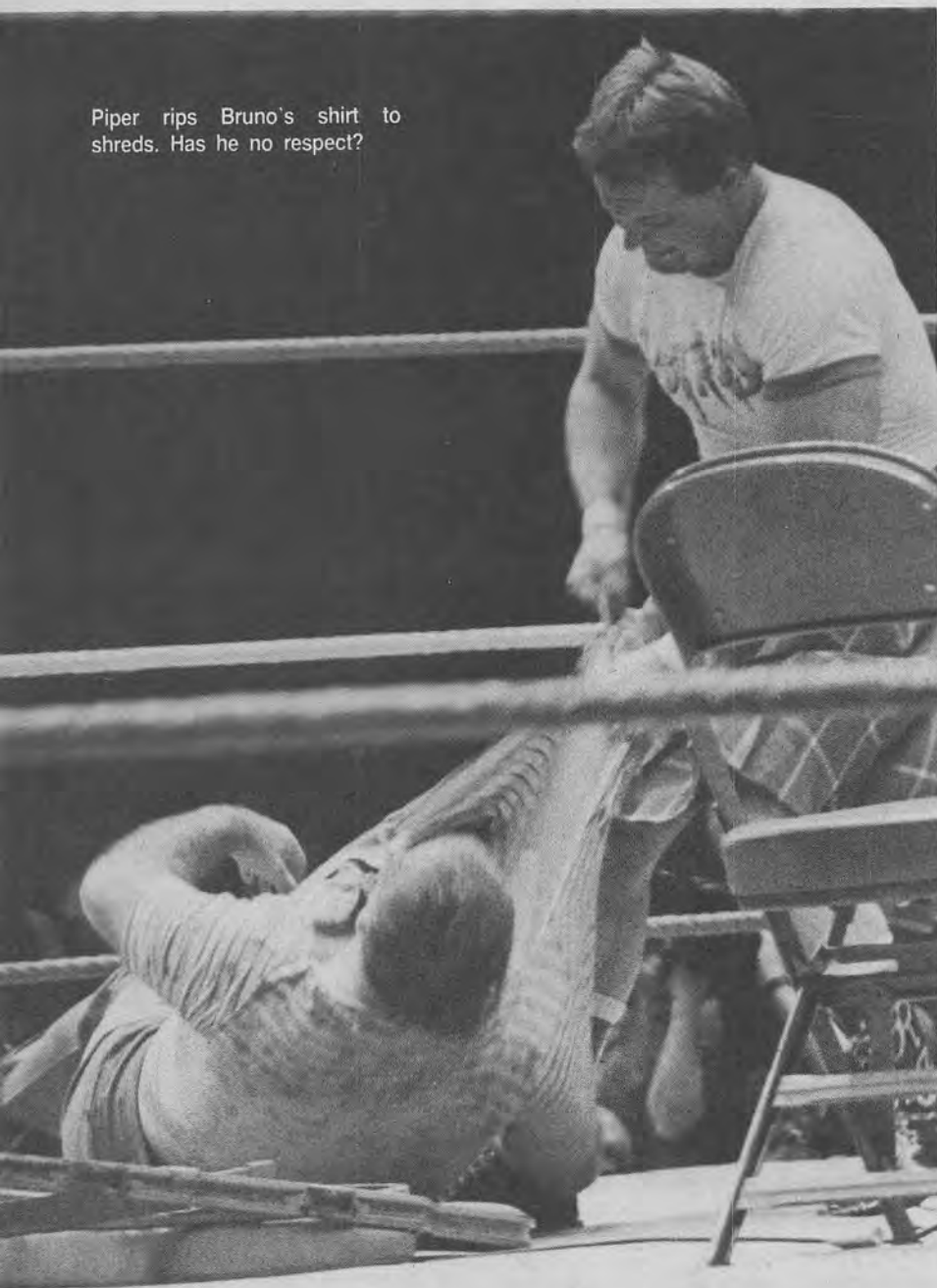
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THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)

Piper rips Bruno's shirt to shreds. Has he no respect?



Bruno Sammartino's recent appearance in the bowels of "Piper's Pit."

I say to all you fans who regularly waste the price of a stamp and flood my desk with noxious demands that I "wake up" and recognize the WWF as the "greatest" federation in the country and Hulk Hogan as the country's premier wrestler that the same set of criteria used to evaluate the rest of the sport can no longer be used to criticize the WWF.

The WWF's primary concern used to be in the promotion of top-flight wrestling matches, something, I add peripherally, they did better than anyone else in the country. The results of the monthly Madison Square Garden cards immediately became the hottest item on the wrestling wire. As exciting as the matches themselves was the trumpeted announcement, happening right after one of the several title matches, of next month's card. A

card that was sure to sell out within 72 hours.

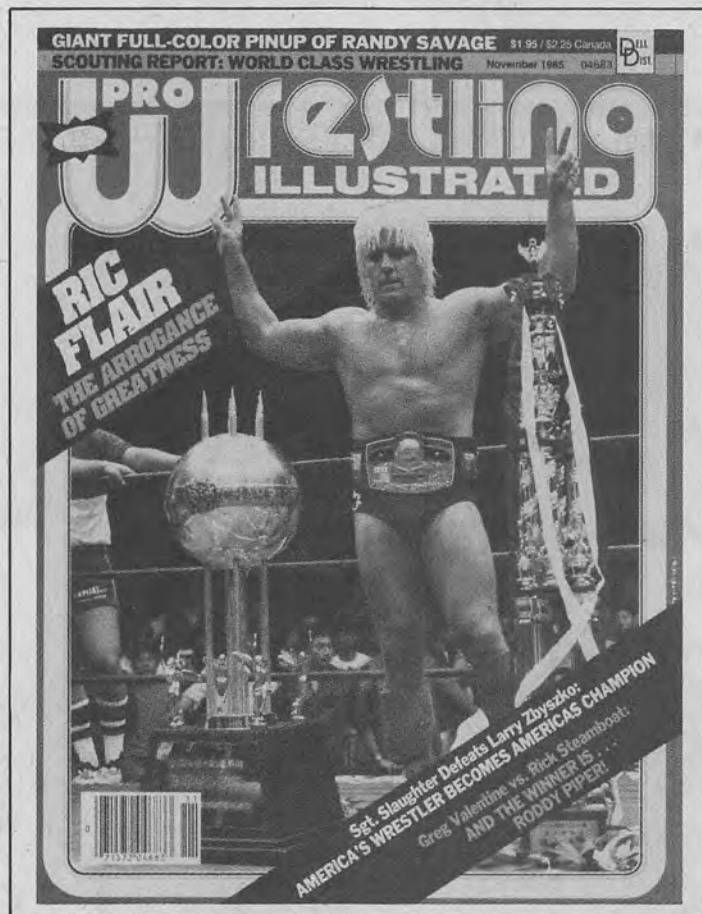
Today's WWF is not a wrestling federation. It's a toy store. Instead of the functional 50-cent program that I used to buy, fans can now purchase a 32-page program for three dollars. Twenty of the 32 pages are advertisements for WWF merchandise. The night's matches are printed on an enclosed flyer, the flip side of which is a merchandise order form.

This might not bother you, dear reader, but it annoys me to the bone. Maybe it wouldn't rub me so bad if I could anticipate an exciting title match. The possibility of Hogan missing a legdrop and losing his belt is always cause for optimism. As I recall, Pedro Morales and Bruno Sammartino defended their belts every month at the Garden. It was beyond comprehension that either man would miss an opportunity to defend their belt in what has been referred to time and again as "the mecca of wrestling." After all, which arena did the WWF select as its site for its big pumpkin, WrestleMania?

Now we're given a "live interview" and told to be satisfied. Now, it's possible to go to Madison Square Garden and not see a single title match. Hogan hasn't seen the inside of the Garden in almost half a year. Some champ.

My idea of a scintillating live wrestling show is not to sit and watch Roddy Piper call Bruno Sammartino a *wop*. My idea of a capable wrestling federation is not one that would commit half its network television time to weddings, pie fights, and skits. Call me crazy, call me zany, call me nutty, but when I tune in to a wrestling show, I like to see two men wrestle. But then there's no accounting for taste, is there, all you WWF fans. □

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BATTLE CREEK, MI

By Art Ozolins



TERRY FUNK
vs.
JUNKYARD DOG

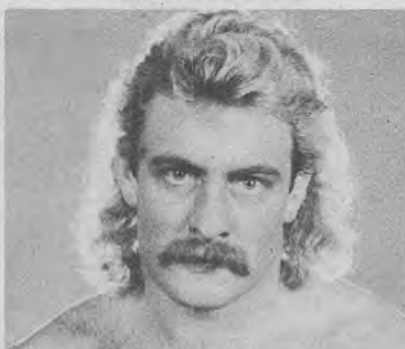


Junkyard Dog and Terry Funk brought their heated conflict to the Cereal City. It was a showdown between street fighter and cow puncher. JYD grabbed Funk's prized hat and began strutting around the ring with it. This infuriated Funk, who attacked JYD with some punishing kicks and chokeholds. JYD countered with a headbutt and both men rolled from the ring. The referee tried to goad them back into the ring, but they refused to stop fighting and were disqualified.

OTHER BOUTS: Nikolai Volkoff & The Iron Sheik defeated George Steele & Cpl. Kirschner by disqualification ... Cousin Junior beat Les Thornton ... B. Brian Blair beat Iron Mike Sharpe ... Jim Brunzell defeated Ron Shaw.

PHILADELPHIA, PA

By Bob Pivoroff



MAGNUM T.A.
vs.
TULLY BLANCHARD



This non-title steel cage match was a brutal affair. Blanchard drew first blood by ramming T.A. into the steel mesh. T.A. became furious and pounded Blanchard in the head and ran him into the corner pole. After exchanging punches for close to 10 furious minutes, T.A. threw a wild haymaker that connected with Blanchard's face. He then rolled Tully over for the pin.

OTHER BOUTS: Ronnie Garvin defeated Ric Flair by disqualification ... Ron Bass defeated Abdullah the Butcher by disqualification ... Manny Fernandez beat Arn Anderson ... Superstar Graham defeated Starship Eagle ... Sam Houston defeated Mike Davis ... Denny Brown drew with the Italian Stallion.

BETHESDA, MD

By Tamas Peterfalvy



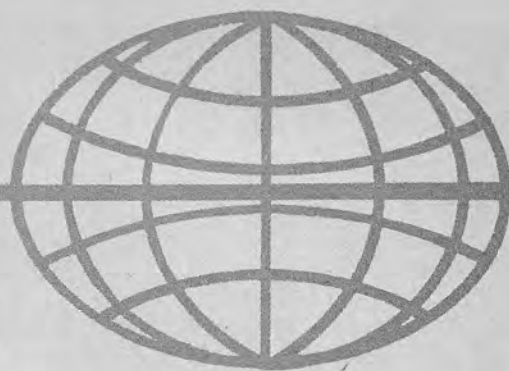
GREG VALENTINE
vs.
HULK HOGAN



Soon after the bell, the wrestlers left the ring and began battling on the arena floor. Hogan bodyslammed Valentine and returned to the ring. Valentine clamped the figure-four leglock on Hogan for 30 seconds, but Hogan grabbed the ropes and broke the hold. After that close brush, Hogan became all business and finished Valentine with a series of elbowsmashes and legdrops.

OTHER BOUTS: Cousin Junior defeated Adrian Adonis ... John Studd defeated Junkyard Dog ... Jim Neidhardt defeated Davey Boy Smith ... Dynamite Kid beat Brett Hart ... Cowboy Bob Orton beat Lanny Poffo ... Magnificent Muraco defeated Gator Wolf ... Junkyard Dog won a \$50,000, 20-man battle royal.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



LAS VEGAS, NV

By Jay Elliot Jr.



CURT HENNIG

vs.

GORGEOUS JIM GARVIN



Garvin attacked Hennig before the bell and, with the aid of Precious' Eau de Cologne, had Hennig groping for the ropes. A well-placed elbow knocked the wind out of Garvin and allowed Hennig to regain his senses. The two then engaged in an exciting if not spectacular match, dominated by a series of flying moves that had the crowd crowing with excitement. After 20 minutes, neither man could gain a decisive advantage, and the match ended in a draw.

OTHER BOUTS: Jerry Blackwell & Rick Martel defeated Buddy Roberts & Terry Gordy ... Larry Zbyszko defeated Sgt. Slaughter by disqualification ... Nick Bockwinkel beat Greg Gagne ... Boris Zukhov defeated Brad Rheingans.

HOUSTON, TX

By Janet & Jimmy Schofield



RIC FLAIR

vs.

BUTCH REED



Reed came on strong from the outset and surprised Flair by reversing the champ's figure-four leglock and then clamping him into a sleeperhold. Flair kicked out of the hold only to have Reed wrap him up in a bearhug. Reed placed Flair in the figure-four and Flair submitted, only to have the referee rule that Flair had disqualified himself moments earlier when he tossed Reed over the top rope. Although Reed was awarded the victory, he did not win the title.

OTHER BOUTS: Jake Roberts & Jim Duggan defeated The Nightmare & Humongous ... Ted DiBiase defeated Bruiser Bob Sweetan ... Hector Guerrero defeated Steve Williams by disqualification ... Dick Murdoch beat Al Perez ... Bobby Fulton defeated Eddie Gilbert ... Dick Slater beat Steve Constant ... Tommy Rogers defeated Dutch Mantel ... Wendell Cooley beat El Corsario.

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

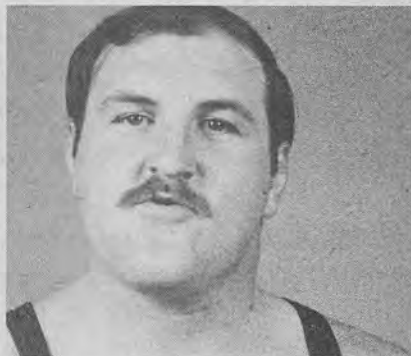
By Brett Collins



LARRY ZBYSZKO

vs.

SGT. SLAUGHTER



Slaughter controlled most of this match, surprising Zbyszko with some great maneuvers, including a flying dropkick. Slaughter downed the challenger with the cobra cannon, then applied the cobra clutch, but before Zbyszko could submit, Boris Zukhov charged into the ring and attacked Slaughter. Zbyszko was disqualified for outside interference.

OTHER BOUTS: Dusty Rhodes and Tully Blanchard were both counted out ... Magnum T.A. defeated Ivan Koloff ... Curt & Larry Hennig wrestled to a double-disqualification against The Long Riders ... Steve Regal beat Buck Zumhofe ... Superstar Billy Graham defeated Pez Whatley.



Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**



RIC FLAIR

ATLANTA, GA: I'm often in the wrong place at the right time and this night was no exception. I was on my way from New York to Dallas, where I was hoping to catch a glimpse of Lance Von Erich, formerly Ricky Vaughn and currently Pacific Northwest champion. My plane was delayed in Atlanta and then I was delayed at the bar. Like a goodly chunk of my life, the rest of the night's memories went the way of the ice that cooled my Johnnie Walker Black. Fortunately, I have several dozen bar buddies and even one or two close friends in the Atlanta area, and I slept this one off in borrowed pajamas as my luggage was met, sans owner, in Dallas by a World Class representative. Oh well. My bread landed butter-side up though, since on tap, so to speak, the next night in The Omni, was a Ric Flair-Nikita Koloff title match in a cage. And since it's my feeling that whenever Nikita Koloff is wrestling, titles can change hands like money at a flea market, I decided to hang around for the battle.

Age is life's great Valium. After you've been around for a while, you grow accustomed to almost

anything. But nothing I've been exposed to in my long tenure behind the typewriter prepared me for this match. Oh, I expected Uncle Ivan and comrade Krusher to run in and help Nikita after the young Russian was defeated by Flair in an extraordinarily fought match. And I wasn't overly shaken when Dusty Rhodes came in to help Flair ward off the Russians.

It became interesting when the Andersons ran into the cage and attacked Rhodes. Flair and Dusty against the Andersons was one of the more unexpected possibilities of this night, even after a substantial dose of the hair of the dog. But when Flair locked the door and helped the Andersons administer a beating to Dusty, eventually breaking Dusty's ankle, I was really looped. Flair had always been such a class act that such a thing was entirely without precedent. How could he do such a thing?

Explanations of all sorts will emerge in the coming weeks, but one thing is for sure: Ric Flair will never smell as clean again. The champ's image is permanently tarnished. And he still has to contend with the spectre of a fuming Dusty Rhodes. I think it's time for Flair to take one of those long overdue vacations that champions always seem in need of.

NEW YORK, NY: News Item: Lou Albano named manager of the British Bulldogs. You'd have a hard time showing me a more portentous sign of success. The only thing separating the Bulldogs and the WWF tag team title has been a manager, and the book about tag team champions was conceived, written, and published by the Captain. This one isn't so much a prediction as it is a guarantee: Davey Boy Smith and the Dynamite Kid will beat Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine for the WWF tag team championship before we see 1986.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN: From high atop the soapbox, I cast my two cents worth into the sea. I was here combining business and pleasure, as both myself and

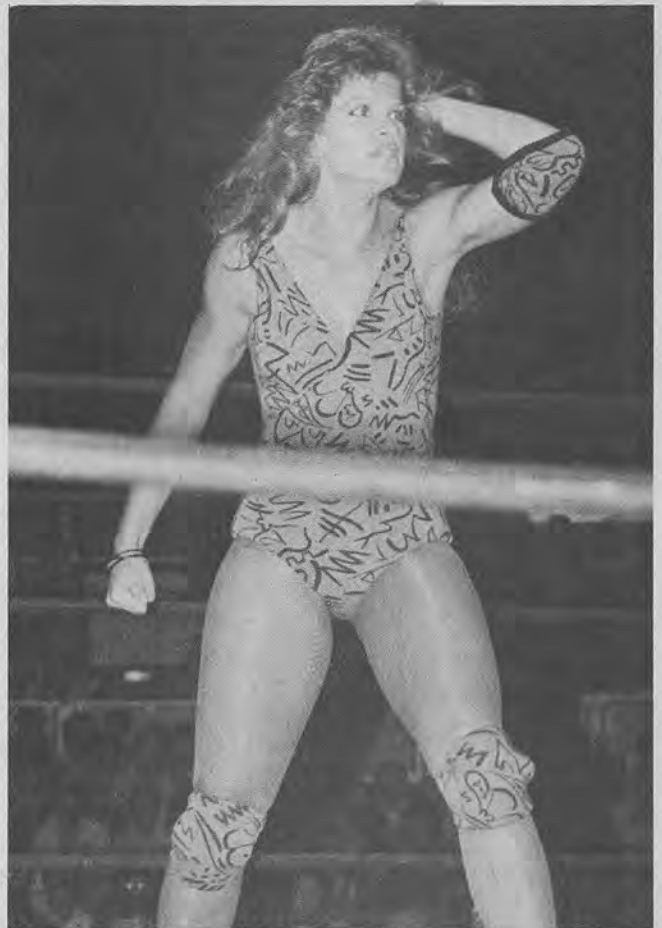
Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

Paul Ellering do work for the same charity. (Outside of the ring and outside of the business world, Paul Ellering is a compassionate man for those less fortunate). In between celebrity golf tourneys and pig roasts, I spoke to the outspoken manager and he is mad as a hatter. Not so much at the fact that the Warriors no longer have the AWA tag team belts, but by the way the AWA hemmed and hawed in their decision-making process. However, word has it that the Legion of Doom has purchased six plots in a local Minneapolis cemetery for the disposal of The Freebirds, Steve Regal, Jim Garvin and Precious. Although nothing but a cheap publicity stunt, I think the act underscores the frustration that Ellering, Hawk, and Animal feel. Their hands are tied right now. The more they criticize the AWA, the less their chances of receiving a title rematch becomes. I look for them to negotiate more with the NWA against the Koloffs. That match is a bigger drawing card anyway, and if the Warriors should be able to capture the NWA crown, they'd hold all the trump cards if the AWA wanted to book a match. The way Ellering was talking, don't be surprised if such a scenario takes place.



THE ROAD WARRIORS & PAUL ELLERING

PHILADELPHIA, PA: I know I've been on several benders lately, but is it possible that I missed the entire renaissance of women's wrestling? I thought ever since Wendi "Twisted Steel And Sex Appeal" Richter and Cyndi "Girls Just Wanna Make



WENDI RICHTER

Money" Lauper had tied the knot, the fairer association was going to take off faster than a Virginia Slims float at a suffragette parade. I recall specific criticism leveled against The Fabulous Moolah for being too good and monopolizing the women for 27 years. Judging from the match I saw recently in Philadelphia between Richter and the Spider Lady, I think the women can use a good dose of skill. I noticed a considerable flourish toward the concessions stands and the restrooms during Richter's battle, although it might have been coincidence. Perhaps Jennifer Holliday would have been a better mascot than Lauper, since if push came to shove she could jump in the ring and knock some heads. Oh, I'm not bitter. I just miss Moolah. Twenty-seven years is a long time. And she was one helluva interview. □

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



DON KENT

This former member of the world championship tag team The Fabulous Kangaroos still wrestles periodically throughout the Midwest. He also recently competed in Detroit and Canada, where he feuded with Dick the

Bruiser. "Bulldog" Don Kent still stays in touch with his former tag team partner Al Costello, and though Costello also wrestles on occasion, there are no plans for reforming The Kangaroos in the immediate future.



HAYSTACKS CALHOUN

The legendary Haystacks Calhoun wrestled his final match in Canada in 1980. His reasons for quitting the mat game were twofold: He wanted to spend more time with his grown daughter and

his 75-year-old mother. Last October, Haystacks had surgery on his neck for a staph infection and discovered that he had diabetes. Confined to a wheelchair, the giant who once weighed 601 pounds has slimmed down to 350.



BOB BACKLUND

The scientific master who wrestled in the AWA and Pro Wrestling U.S.A. promotions after spending nearly six years as WWF champion has found a new niche in the world of wrestling. Backlund was

recently named assistant wrestling coach at Central Connecticut State College in New Britain, Connecticut. Backlund tells us that he's eagerly looking forward to dealing with youngsters on the collegiate competitive level.



TERRY GORDY

Following recovery from an injury in the AWA at the hands of Jerry Blackwell, Freebird Terry Gordy embarked on a tour of Japan. In addition to wrestling in singles and tag team competi-

tion, Gordy plans to spend some time with the anonymous martial arts master who taught him the Oriental Spike. A recent telegram from Gordy tells us that he is learning several new techniques from this individual and the wrestling world "had best beware."

INSIDE WRESTLING

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capsule profile

ONCE ONE OF the most hated men in wrestling, Paul Orndorff is now one of the most popular wrestlers in the WWF (*"I just love hearing the cheers of the fans"*) ... A former pro football player for the New Orleans Saints, Orndorff has been in the pro wrestling ranks for six years ... Maintains a superb physique, and devotes himself to a rigid daily training regimen (*"You've got to take care of your body, it's the only one you've got and it's got to last you for a long, long time!"*) ... Made an early name for himself in the Florida area (*"I'm from Brandon, Florida, that's why they call me 'The Brandon Bull!' "*) ... In late 1981, feuded in the Mid-South area with then-fan favorite Ted DiBiase (*"I was on the wrong track as far as my outlook on wrestling went"*) ... When DiBiase became one of the sport's most notorious rulebreakers, Orndorff had sympathy for him (*"I don't like to see a good man waste his talents like that"*) ... Once a tag team partner with Jimmy Snuka (they held the NWA World tag team belts in 1979), Orndorff and Snuka feuded in early 1982 ... Went to the Georgia area where he became a three-time National champion in 1982 and challenged NWA World champion Ric Flair several times ... Unable to defeat Flair, Orndorff returned to the WWF prepared to win the WWF World title (*"I*

PAUL ORNDORFF

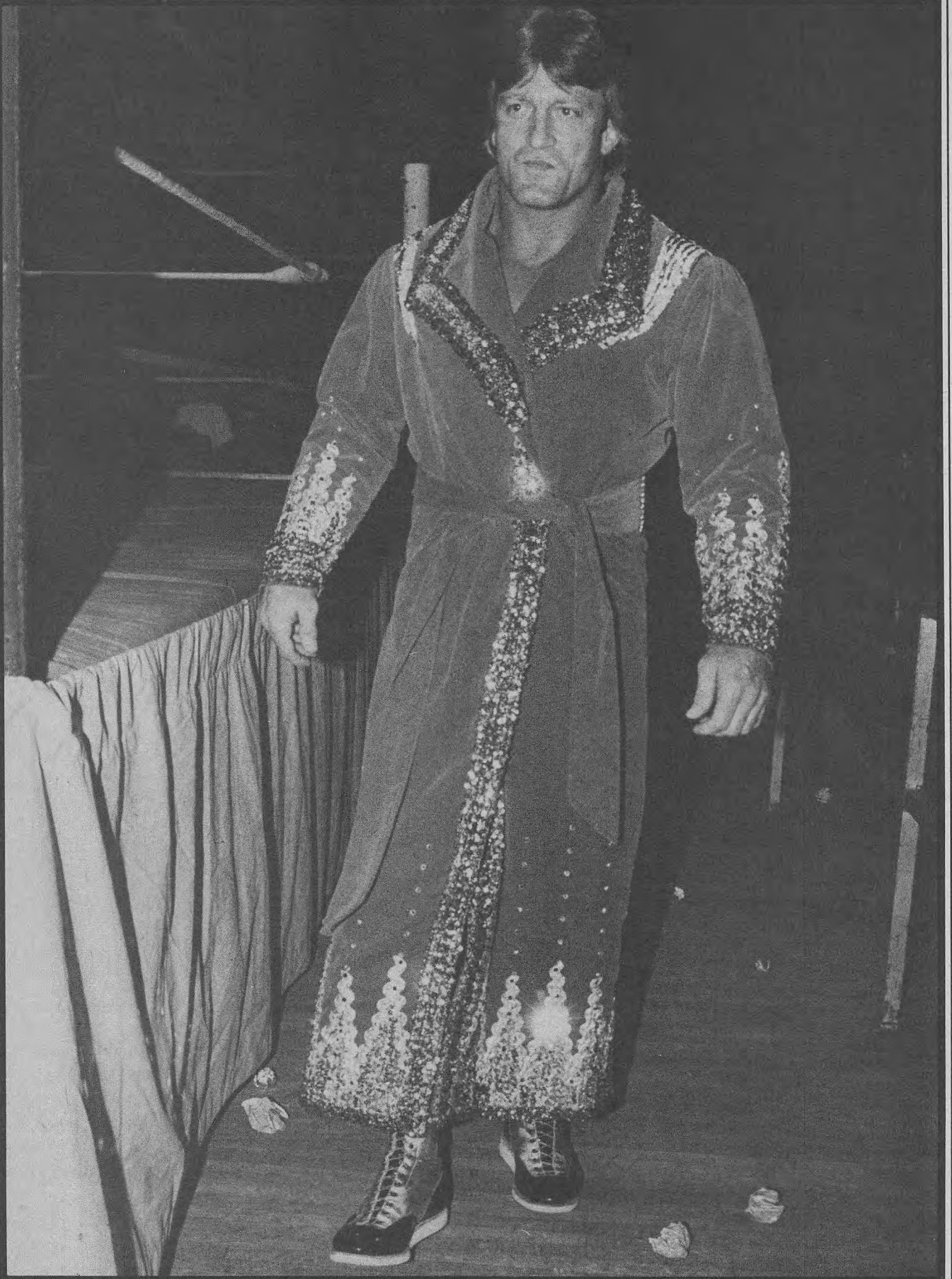


Paul Orndorff wraps his massive arms around the head of Magnificent Muraco. Paul maintains one of the best builds in wrestling, and he has the skills to match. Orndorff is one of the most popular men in the sport.

suggest that everyone stop worrying about if I'll get a shot at the title and start worrying about what will happen when I do win the belt") ... Was managed by Bobby Heenan and became a close friend of Roddy Piper, with whom he teamed on many occasions ... Fans took to calling him "Paula" Orndorff ... Teamed with Piper to battle Hulk Hogan and Mr. T in the main event of the March 31, 1985, WrestleMania card ... When Orndorff was the victim of a pinfall by

Hogan, a split between Piper and "Mr. Wonderful" developed (*"Piper called me 'Mr. Blunderful,' when it was his mistake that cost us the match"*) ... Fired Heenan as his manager on national television (*"Heenan said he was ready to fire me—that's a laugh!"*) ... Has now befriended WWF champion Hulk Hogan, though critics agree that his singles career has begun to stagnate ... Nevertheless, Orndorff remains one of the most popular men in the sport today. □

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP

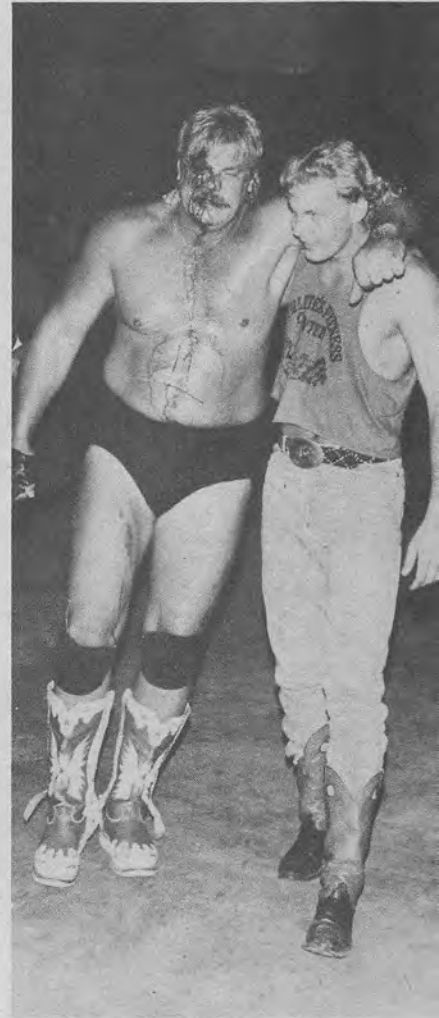


PAUL ORNDORFF

Special Feature:



Barry Windham and Blackjack Mulligan share a victory in Florida in 1983 (left). Rookie Kendell Windham assists his injured father to the dressing room (below). The proud father sees a lot of similarities in his sons.



BLACKJACK MULLIGAN COMPARES HIS SONS KENDELL AND BARRY WINDHAM

A feared rulebreaker for most of his career, Blackjack Mulligan finds himself blessed with a pair of strapping young sons who, besides emulating their father's success, also happen to be two of the most popular wrestlers in the country. In this special story, Blackjack Mulligan contrasts his sons Barry and Kendell with each other and with himself

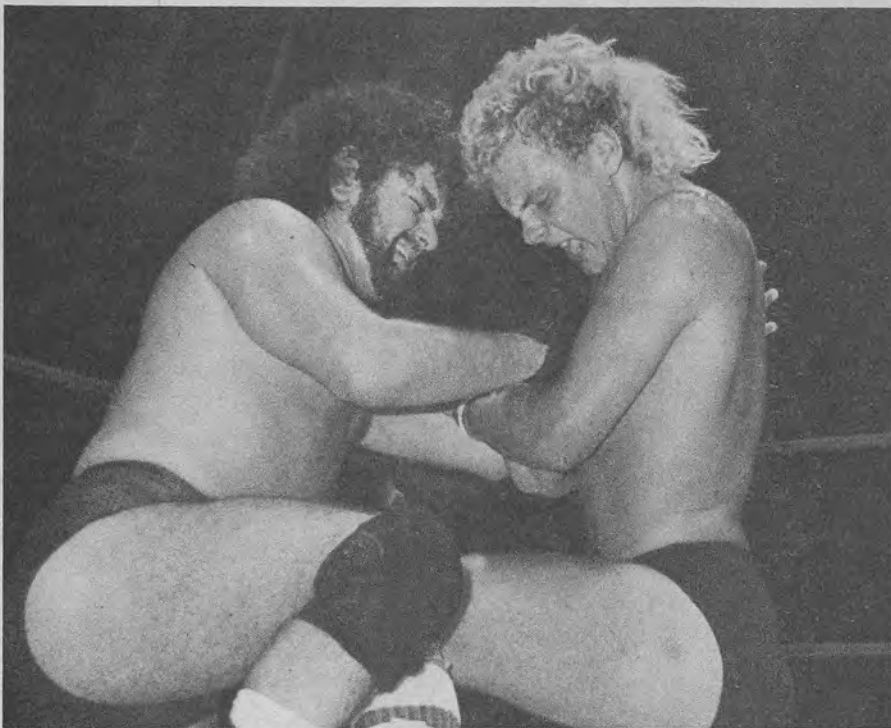
By Blackjack Mulligan

MY DADDY WANTED me to raise cattle and ride in a rodeo. It was his dream that his big son Jack grow up to be a cowboy and a rancher. Instead, this ol'

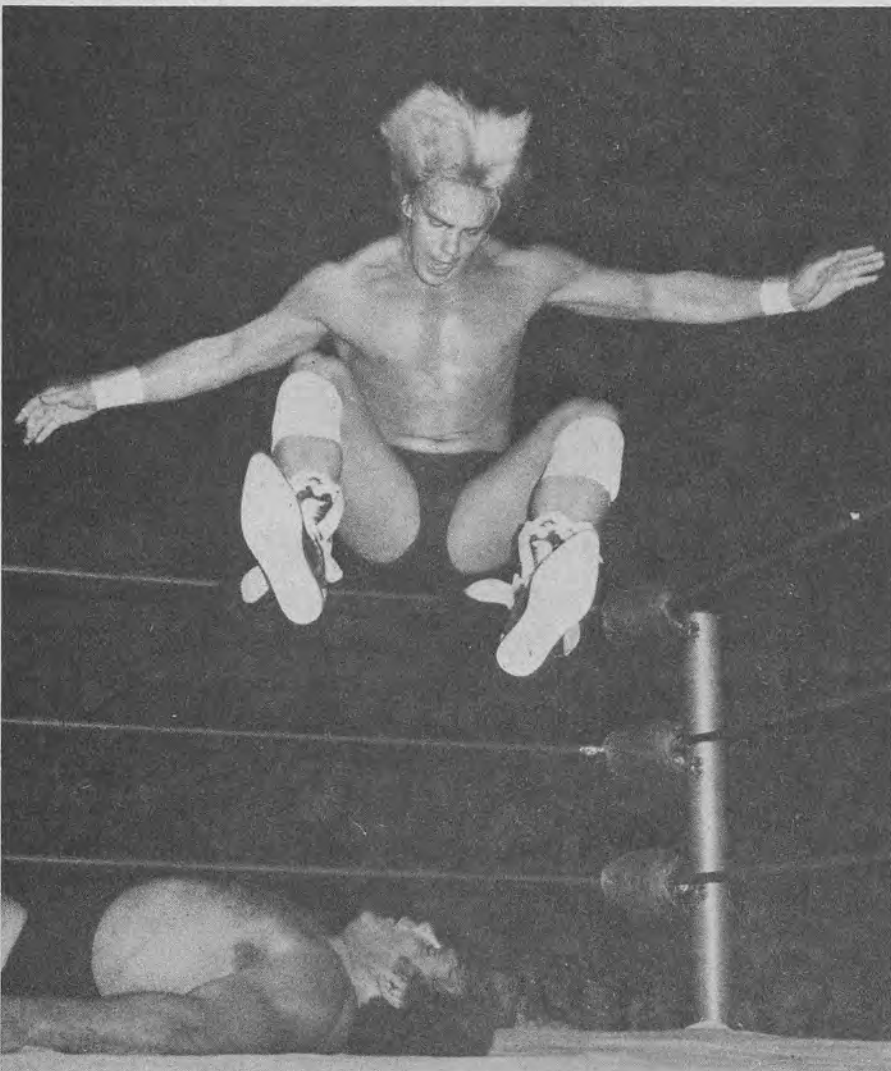
Jack went on to college, played a little professional football, and spent his life teaching people lessons in the wrestling ring.

I shared my daddy's dream of

ranching and cowboying for my oldest son, Barry. As a boy, Barry always showed a fascination for horses, always had the patience you need to run a ranch. I encouraged



Kendell Windham, who carries barely 220 pounds on his 6'6" frame, cannot rely on strength at this point in his development. Kendell and Jack Hart go for simultaneous kneelifts (above left). The lanky Windham applies a headlock on Hart (above right). Barry Windham had already started to fill out by 1983 when he wrestled a series of matches with Angelo Mosca (below).



him, thinking that maybe Barry could do for my father what I didn't.

Kendell was a shy boy and he loved school. Now, I liked school also because it allowed me a chance to play football. Kendell liked school because he liked to *read*. I always figured Kendell would be the boy to go on to Harvard or USC and maybe on to law or medical school. And, of course, like any good daddy must, I always encouraged his academic interests, although I didn't understand a hoot or holler of what he was talking about half the time.

So what happens? Barry, the cowboy, goes on to West Texas State, plays football, and becomes a professional wrestler. Kendell, the bookworm, reluctantly graduates from high school, becomes a golden gloves boxer, and a professional wrestler, too. Who can figure? If you've ever seen a jackalope bound on down the prairie then you know life can get mighty strange.

It was rough going when Barry turned professional. First of all he was skinny as a fishing pole. I think he stood 6'5" and weighed something like 205 pounds. He was a strong kid, but too wiry, and he took a lot of punishment in his

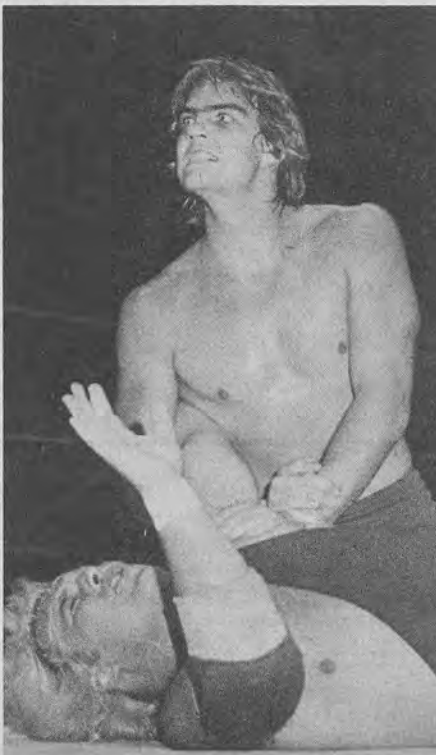


first couple of matches.

Now, I made a policy as soon as Barry turned pro that if ever he needed help, I would be there for him, although he'd have to ask me for it. Tough sonofagun that he is, Barry never once asked me for help. He even changed his name to disassociate himself from me and my ways. At first I was bristled. I admit it: my own flesh and blood turning his back on me. But then, the more I thought about it I realized that my boy belonged to no one, let alone an old bar pug like me. We love and respect each other, but that don't mean we gotta be carbon copies.

Of course, since his debut, Barry's put on close to damn near 50 pounds and is regarded now as one of the best wrestlers in the world. With Kendell it was a much different story. Even though he's still just a green buck by anyone's standards, I never worried as much about him as I did about Barry,

Barry, who now possesses one of the best physiques in the sport, lands a perfect dropkick against Nikolai Volkoff (above). Just six years ago, Barry (armlocking Bobby Jagers, below) looked very much like his younger brother does today.



and if you could see Kendell in a boxing ring, you wouldn't worry either.

Kendell could hit, he could move, and he could take a punch. He looks like a turkey neck, too, standing there something close to 6'6" and barely making 220 pounds, but he has the ring smarts something fierce. Kendell is the youngest man ever to win the Southern title—he was just 19—and he did it as easy as you and I breathe air. Once he fills out, he will be an awesome sight to behold.

It's tough to compare my two boys, probably because they are so similar to one another. I'd say that where Barry is a little stronger, Kendell is a little quicker. Kendell's boxing background makes him a slightly better defensive wrestler, but that's a tough rap on Barry. Barry doesn't know the meaning of the word defense.

(Continued on page 63)

INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 3—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA

- 4—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 5—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 6—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 7—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI

- 8—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 9—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 10—**KERRY VON ERICH**
251, Denton, TX
- 11—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI

- 12—**BRUISER BRODY**
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 13—**BUTCH REED**
265, Kansas City, MO
- 14—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 15—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, Glens Falls, NY

NWA

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 3—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL

- 4—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 5—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 6—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
276, Moscow, Russia
- 7—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX

- 8—**HARLEY RACE**
253, Kansas City, MO
- 9—**BRIAN ADIDAS**
238, Denton, TX
- 10—**LANCE VON ERICH**
245, Dallas
- 11—**CARLOS COLON**
246, Bayamon, Puerto Rico

- 12—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**
245, Portland, OR
- 13—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 14—**JERRY LAWLER**
234, Memphis, TN
- 15—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX

AWA

- 1—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 2—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
248, Pittsburgh, PA

- 4—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX
- 5—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL
- 6—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 7—**MICHAEL HAYES**
255, Marietta, GA

- 8—**BORIS ZUKHOV**
254, Leningrad, Russia
- 9—**GREG GAGNE**
220, Robbinsdale, MN
- 10—**SCOTT HALL**
263, Minneapolis, MN
- 11—**CURT HENNIG**
235, Minneapolis, MN

- 12—**BARON VON RASCHKE**
271, Germany
- 13—**BILLY ROBINSON**
246, Manchester, England
- 14—**JERRY BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 15—**BUCK ZUMHOFF**
222, Hamburg, MN

WWF

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 3—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI

- 4—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 5—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 6—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 7—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL

- 8—**TERRY FUNK**
247, Amarillo, TX
- 9—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
- 10—**ANDRE THE GIANT**
505, Grenoble, France
- 11—**KING KONG BUNDY**
446, Atlantic City, NJ

- 12—**JESSE VENTURA**
270, Muscle Beach, CA
- 13—**ADRIAN ADONIS**
307, New York, NY
- 14—**JOHN STUDD**
364, Washington, DC
- 15—**COWBOY BOB ORTON**
245, Kansas City, MO

MOST POPULAR

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX

- 4—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 5—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 6—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 7—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX

- 8—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, New York, NY
- 9—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 10—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 11—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX

- 12—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**
245, Portland, OR
- 13—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL
- 14—**BARRY WINDHAM**
230, Sweetwater, TX
- 15—**TOMMY RICH**
238, Hendersonville, TN

MOST HATED

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis
- 2—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Glasgow, Scotland
- 3—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI

- 4—**TED DIBIASE**
247, Omaha, NB
- 5—**CHRIS ADAMS**
230, Stratford, England
- 6—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 7—**OLE ANDERSON**
256, Minneapolis, MN

- 8—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 9—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 10—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 11—**STEVE WILLIAMS**
295, Tulsa, OK

- 12—**MICHAEL HAYES**
255, Marietta, GA
- 13—**GINO HERNANDEZ**
224, Houston, TX
- 14—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
239, Boston, MA
- 15—**BILL DUNDEE**
214, Melbourne, Australia

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**
No. 1 contenders to AWA and NWA World tag titles
- 2—**IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF**
NWA World tag team champions
- 3—**GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
WWF World tag team champions
- 4—**JIM GARVIN & STEVE REGAL**
AWA World tag team champions
- 5—**CHRIS ADAMS & GINO HERNANDEZ**
No. 1 contenders to World Class tag team title

- 6—**OLE & ARN ANDERSON**
National tag team champions
- 7—**STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE**
Mid-Southern tag team champions
- 8—**WAHOO McDANIEL & BILLY JACK HAYNES**
U.S. tag team champions
- 9—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
- 10—**AL PEREZ & WENDELL COOLEY**
Mid-South tag team champions

- 11—**DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH**
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
- 12—**STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE**
No. 1 contenders to Mid-South tag team title
- 13—**STAN HANSEN & TED DIBIASE**
PWF tag team champions
- 14—**DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON**
No. 3 contenders to NWA tag team title
- 15—**ROCKY & RICKY JOHNSON**
Polynesian Pacific tag team champions

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place . . . Though several Canadian and Japanese championships are listed in the "Roll Call," the ratings themselves reflect United States-based competition. For period ended October 29, 1985

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

ALABAMA CHAMPION: ROBERTO SOTO

(September 20, 1985; tournament final over The Flame; Mobile, AL)

ALL-ASIA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

ISAMU TERANISHI & ANIMAL HAMAGUCHI

(July 18, 1985; from Akio Sato & Takashi Ishikawa; Tokyo, Japan)

AWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: STEVE REGAL

(March 25, 1984; from Buck Zumhofe; St. Paul, MN)

AWA WORLD CHAMPION: RICK MARTEL

(May 13, 1984; from Jumbo Tsuruta; St. Paul, MN)

* AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JIM GARVIN & STEVE REGAL

(September 29, 1985; from The Road Warriors; St. Paul, MN)

* AWA WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: SHERRI MARTEL

(September 28, 1985; from Candi Divine; Chicago, IL)

AMERICAS CHAMPION: SGT. SLAUGHTER

(June 21, 1985; from Larry Zbyszko; Chicago, IL)

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: DINO BRAVO

(May 28, 1985; defeated King Tonga to fill vacant title; Montreal)

CANADIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JACQUES & RAYMOND ROUGEAU

(June 12, 1985; defeated King Tonga & Dick Charland to fill vacant title; Quebec City)

CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: MARTY JANNETTY

(September 22, 1985; from Mr. Pogo; Des Moines, IA)

CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Bob Brown & Marty Jannetty)

CENTRAL STATES TV CHAMPION: GARY ROYAL

(March 7, 1985; from Marty Jannetty; Kansas City, KS)

FLORIDA CHAMPION: KENDELL WINDHAM

(September 2, 1985; from Jack Hart; Tampa, FL)

IWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MISTY BLUE SIMMES

(March 30, 1985; from Nickie Ryan; Malden, MA)

MID-SOUTH TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: WENDELL COOLEY & AL PEREZ

(August 28, 1985; from Steve Williams & Bob Sweetan; Shreveport, LA)

MID-SOUTH TV CHAMPION: BUTCH REED

(July 22, 1985; from Dutch Mantel; Shreveport, LA)

* MID-SOUTHERN CHAMPION: BILL DUNDEE

(October 19, 1985; from Jerry Lawler; Memphis, TN)

* MID-SOUTHERN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: PHIL HICKERSON

(October 21, 1985; from Mongolian Stomper; Memphis, TN)

* MID-SOUTHERN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE

(October 12, 1985; from Jonathan Boyd & Rip Morgan; Nashville, TN)

MISSOURI CHAMPION: HARLEY RACE

(August 2, 1985; from Jerry Blackwell; St. Louis)

NATIONAL CHAMPION: TERRY TAYLOR

(September 22, 1985; from Black Bart; Atlanta, GA)

NATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: OLE & ARN ANDERSON

(May 28, 1985; from T-Bolt Patterson & Manny Fernandez; Charlotte, NC)

NWA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA

(August 31, 1983; from Bruiser Brody; Tokyo, Japan)

NWA INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION:

TIGER MASK

(August 31, 1985; from Kuniaki Kobayashi; Tokyo, Japan)

NWA INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

JUMBO TSURUTA & TENRYU

(September 3, 1984; from Bruiser Brody & Crusher Blackwell; Japan)

NWA JAPANESE JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO SAITO

(July 28, 1985; from The Cobra; Osaka, Japan)

NWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: DENNY BROWN

(September 15, 1985; from Gary Royal; Atlanta)

NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF & KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV

(December 1984; first team to claim NWA six-man title)

NWA TV CHAMPION: DUSTY RHODES

(July 6, 1985; from Tully Blanchard; Charlotte, NC)

NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR

(May 24, 1984; from Kerry Von Erich; Yokosuka City, Japan)

* NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF

(October 13, 1985; from Rick Morton & Robert Gibson; Charlotte, NC)

* NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: BUTCH REED

(October 14, 1985; from Dick Murdoch; New Orleans)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: LANCE VON ERICH

(August 3, 1985; tournament final over Mike Miller; Portland, OR)

* PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

MIKE MILLER & MOONDOG MORETTI

(October 22, 1985; over Steve Simpson & Joe Savoldi; Ft. Lewis, WA)

PWF CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(July 30, 1985; from Shohei Baba; Fukuoka, Japan)

PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STAN HANSEN & TED DIBIASE

(As mandated by PWF wrestling officials)

POLYNESIAN PACIFIC CHAMPION: LARS ANDERSON

(August 3, 1985; from Bad News Allen; Honolulu)

POLYNESIAN PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

ROCKY & RICKY JOHNSON

(December 19, 1984; from Superfly Tui & Super Samoa Sakalia; Honolulu)

SOUTHEAST CHAMPION: EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET

(August 6, 1985; from Austin Idol; Birmingham, AL)

SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL CHAMPION: THE FLAME

(September 21, 1985; from Tommy Rich; Dothan, AL)

* SOUTHEAST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE NIGHTMARES

(October 5, 1985; from Brickhouse Brown & Norvell Austin; Birmingham, AL)

SOUTHEAST U.S. JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION:

SCOTT ARMSTRONG

(July 5, 1985; from Bill Ash; Montgomery, AL)

* SOUTHERN CHAMPION: WAHOO McDANIEL

(October 2, 1985; over Rick Rude; Tampa, FL)

* TEXAS ALL-STAR U.S. CHAMPION: CHAVO GUERRERO

(September 29, 1985; from Ted DiBiase; San Antonio, TX)

TEXAS ALL-STAR JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: DALE VEASEY

(September 1, 1985; tournament final over Terry Daniels; San Antonio, TX)

* TEXAS ALL-STAR TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MASKED HOODS

(September 29, 1985; from The American Force; San Antonio, TX)

U.S. CHAMPION: TULLY BLANCHARD

(July 21, 1985; from Magnum T.A.; Charlotte, NC)

U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

BILLY JACK HAYNES & WAHOO McDANIEL

(July 9, 1985; from Rick Rude & Jesse Barr; Tampa, FL)

WORLD CLASS AMERICAN CHAMPION: ICEMAN PARSONS

(July 5, 1985; from Chris Adams; Dallas)

WORLD CLASS MIDDLE EASTERN CHAMPION: MIKE VON ERICH

(August 7, 1985; tournament final over Gino Hernandez; Tel Aviv)

WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS:

KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH & BRIAN ADIDAS

(September 2, 1985; from Killer Brooks, Mark Lewin, and One Man Gang; Ft. Worth, TX)

WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Chris Adams & Gino Hernandez)

WORLD CLASS TV CHAMPION: JOHN TATUM

(August 5, 1985; from Shawn Cody; Ft. Worth, TX)

* WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: BRIAN ADIDAS

(September 27, 1985; from Gino Hernandez; Dallas, TX)

WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER

(March 31, 1985; from Lelani Kai; New York)

WORLD WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

DESIREE PETERSEN & VELVET MCINTYRE

(May 1983; from Joyce Grable & Wendi Richter; Calgary, Alberta)

WWC JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: INVADER III

(January 5, 1985; from Pedro Arguello; Mexico City)

WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: HERCULES AYALA

(March 10, 1985; from Randy Savage; Ponce, Puerto Rico)

WWC NORTH AMERICAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

INVADER I & INVADER III

(September 21, 1985; from Butch Miller & Luke Williams; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: ERIC EMBRY

(August 3, 1985; from Super Medic; Bayaman, Puerto Rico)

WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BUTCH MILLER & LUKE WILLIAMS

(June 21, 1985; from Invader III & The Medic; Manati, Puerto Rico)

WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON

(June 15, 1985; from Dory Funk Jr.; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: TITO SANTANA

(July 6, 1985; from Greg Valentine; Baltimore, MD)

WWF INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: TATSUMI FUJINAMI

(August 4, 1983; from Gino Brito; New York)

WWF INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

TATSUMI FUJINAMI & KENGO KIMURA

(May 24, 1985; tournament final over Adrian Adonis & Dick Murdoch; Kobe City, Japan)

WWF JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO SAITO

(July 28, 1985; from The Cobra; Osaka, Japan)

WWF WORLD CHAMPION: HULK HOGAN

(January 23, 1984; from The Iron Sheik; New York)

WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE

(August 24, 1985; from Barry Windham & Mike Rotundo; Philadelphia)

Victims Of Circumstance Or Conspiracy?

THREE FORMER CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS FACE THE BATTLE OF THEIR LIVES!

IN THE SPACE of just a few weeks, the situations surrounding the three world tag team titles have changed drastically. Two of those three championships have changed ownership, while the third has come under serious examination regarding that federation's choice of opponents.

On the pages that follow, *Inside Wrestling* takes a three-pronged look at these tag team titles. We examine each situation in depth, and raise important questions that are vital to the state of tag team wrestling in particular, and the health and longevity of the sport of wrestling in general.

● **Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff: Did The WWF Cave In To International Pressures?** (page 35): As Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake continue to hold the WWF World tag team title, the prospects for the WWF allowing former champions The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff to challenge for the belts grow dimmer and dimmer. This, however, is a mistake—a Valentine-Beefcake vs. Sheik-Volkoff match would no doubt be a classic. Are the anti-American attitudes of these two men the reason they've been denied the match?

● **The Road Warriors: Were They Getting Too Big For The AWA?** (page 38): The AWA has been a hotbed of controversy regarding official decisions in championship matches. In recent months, AWA officials have overturned several decisions that would have caused illegal title changes in both the singles and tag team divisions. But when Jim Garvin and Steve Regal were assisted by The Freebirds in dethroning The Road Warriors, the officials claimed that there were no tapes

of the match. Only after *Inside Wrestling* learned that tapes did in fact exist, the AWA reversed past precedence and stated that the referee's decision would remain final in all cases. Certainly, AWA officials have no reason to favor Regal and Garvin. Why, then, would the AWA change its policy in midstream and allow the Warriors to drown?

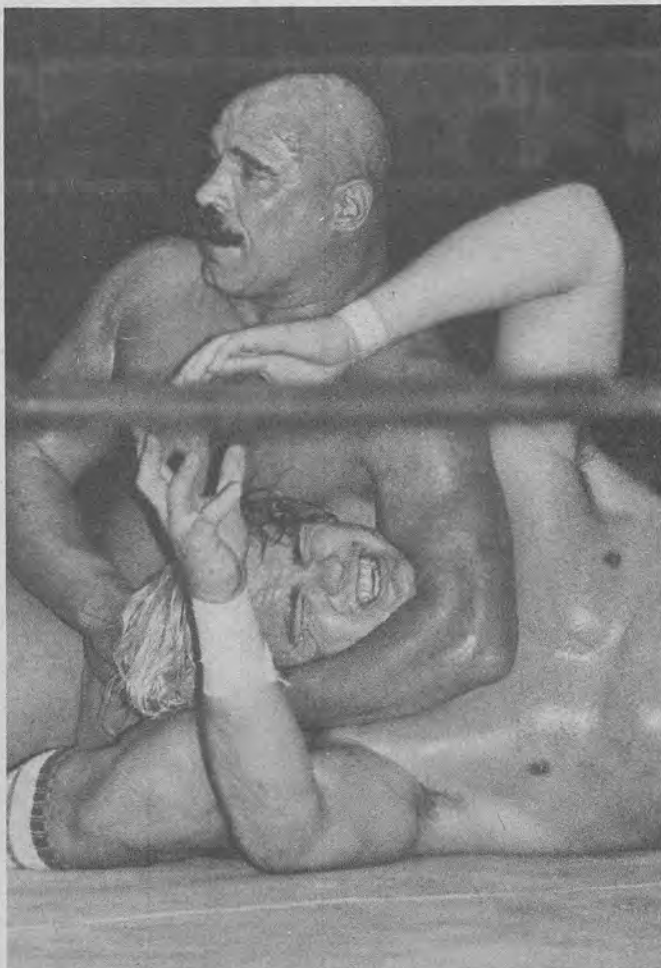
● **The Rock 'n' Roll Express: Did NWA Officials Turn Their Backs on Morton and Gibson?** (page 40): The manner in which Rick Morton and Robert Gibson lost the NWA World tag team belts to Ivan and Nikita Koloff didn't come as a surprise to many wrestling fans. With Krusher Khrushchev at ringside for all of their recent title matches, it was only a matter of time before the Krusher would find the opportunity to interfere behind the referee's back, providing his Russian friends with an unfair advantage that would ultimately cost The Rock 'n' Roll Express the championship. If everyone could see this coming, why then couldn't the NWA officials? Why didn't the officials bar Khrushchev from ringside? Why didn't they station an alternate official at ringside to prevent Khrushchev from interfering? Or why didn't they allow Morton and Gibson to have one of their allies at ringside, as the former champions requested? Are the Russians successfully intimidating NWA officials? And if so, do The Rock 'n' Roll Express have any recourse?

Three important titles, three excellent tag teams, and three volatile situations. Read the stories; form your own opinions of these various scenarios. Then write to us here at *Inside Wrestling* and tell us what you think; we'd like to know.

● Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff: Did The WWF Cave In To International Pressures?



Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik have been shut out of the WWF tag team title picture and have done a lot of complaining lately (above). Barry Windham struggles in vain to escape the Sheik's headlock (right).



CLOSE YOUR EYES America and forget. Forget the invasion of Hungary and the Bay of Pigs. Disregard the downed Korean jetliner and Afghanistani Nerve Gas wars. Plunder from your memory the 1978-79 hostage crisis, eliminate the grisly profile of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Try instead to imagine the swelling of pride in Nikolai Volkoff's chest every time he sings the Soviet National Anthem. Bet that it rivals the lump in your own throat each occasion the "Star Spangled Banner" is played.

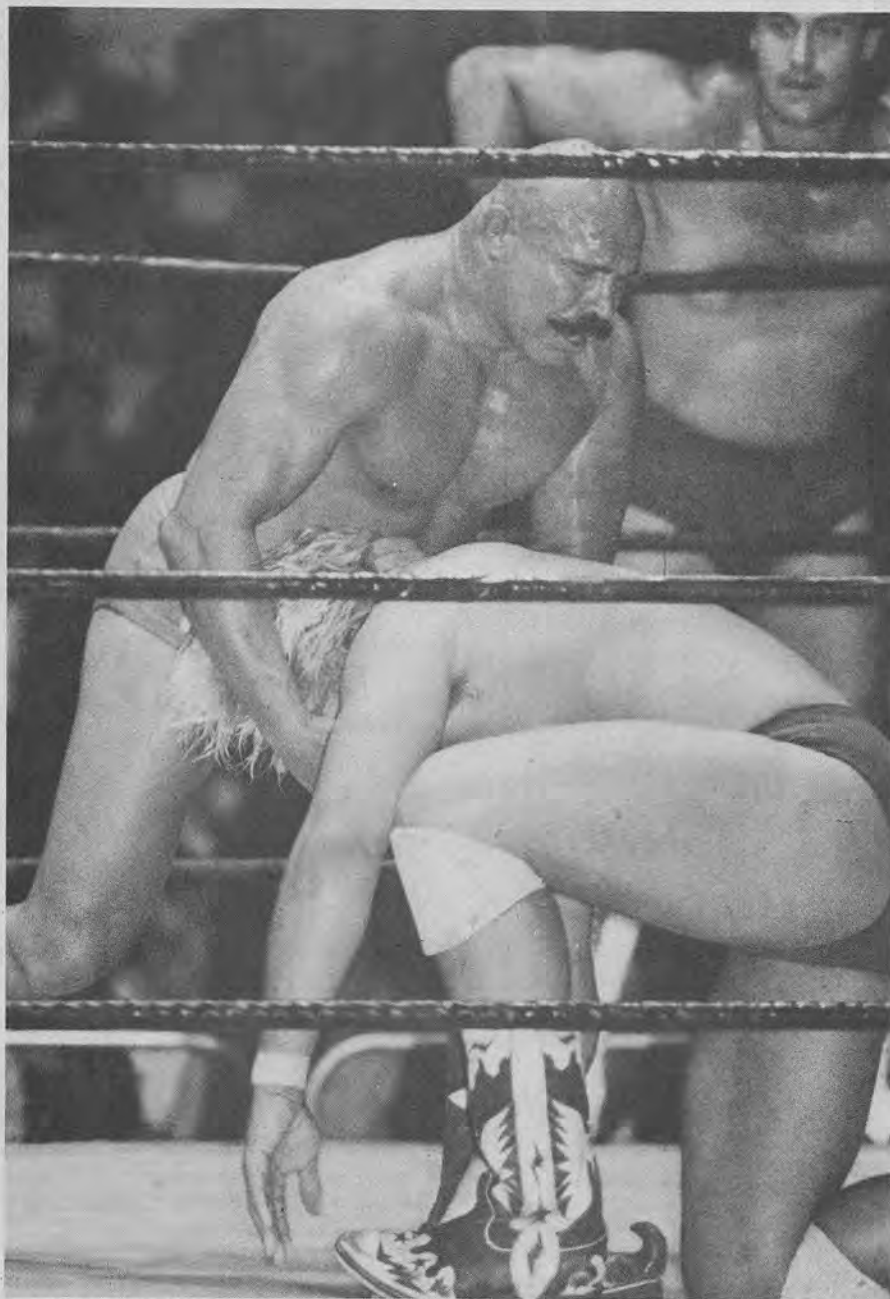
Try to imagine being a citizen of a country whose government has convinced its people that the United States is the source of all evil in the world. The Iron Sheik was taught to honor Prince Mohammad Reza, the Shah of Iran, whose government was supported by the United States. But a shift in Iran's leadership to the Ayatollah Khomeini also shifted the Sheik's feelings about the U.S. to one of dripping hate.

Yes, these two men, the Sheik and Volkoff, hate, loathe, and vilify America. Yes, given an opportunity

they would love to see our "fat and complacent" American stomachs ripped apart, our lazy guts spill out onto our wall-to-wall carpeting, our blood, rich in fatty nutrients, paint our walls. They don't like us, we aren't too fond of them—but this being America, the understanding is that every color and creed deserves an equal chance under the law. That chance is currently being denied Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik by the prejudicial policies of the WWF.

It's an ironic case of reverse discrimination, since the WWF has

WORLD TAG TITLES IN TURMOIL!



Iron Sheik grabs Windham's windpipe as Mike Rotundo looks on from the ring apron. While the Sheik and Volkoff are currently the second-ranked challengers to Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake, contracts for a title match have yet to be signed.

long been reviled for its unwillingness to pit scientific wrestlers against one another. However, the question that looms larger than, *Will the WWF match two rulebreaking teams against one another?*, in this case, Volkoff and the Iron Sheik against champions Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine, is, *Would the WWF grant Volkoff and the Iron Sheik a title shot regardless of who the champions were?*

The spectre of discrimination opens its foul mouth and the mouth spits. Word around the offices of the WWF is now that The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff no longer possess the title—which means no more champion's clout: no more limos, no more penthouse suites, no more free long distance (and talk wasn't cheap when Nikolai Volkoff and the Iron Sheik went to reach out and touch somebody; Teheran is \$3.46 for the

first minute, Moscow slightly higher), and, the key privilege now denied: They no longer have negotiating rights in choosing their opponents. Read: The Communists have been relegated to wrestling's scrapheap.

As long as Beefcake and Valiant remain champions, then the powers-that-be in the WWF have a convenient excuse not to make this match. For the same reason that Hulk Hogan needn't worry about wrestling Ricky Steamboat, a Beefcake-Valiant vs. Iron Sheik-Volkoff match will never take place. Should Beefcake and Valiant stumble and lose their belts to a tandem of scientific wrestlers, then the Federation will be hard pressed not to grant the Iron Sheik and Volkoff a title match.

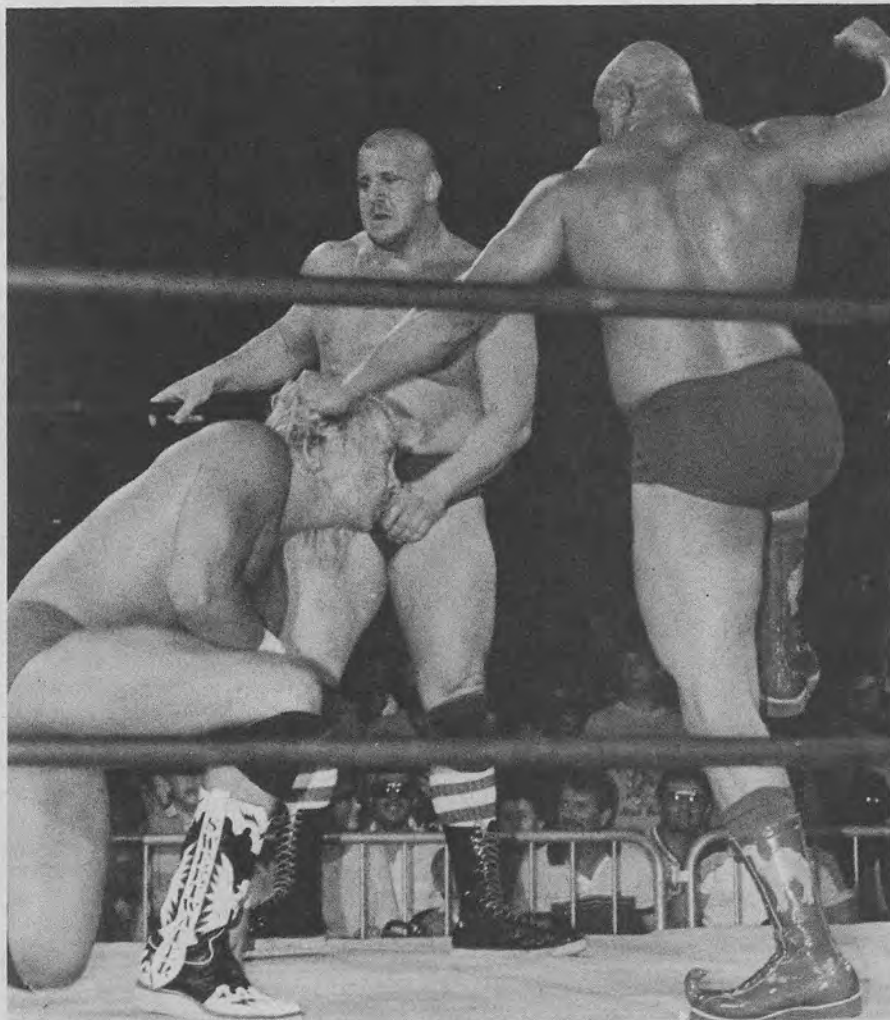
The WWF did not reach its current plateau by reading turkey entrails. Just as they guessed that a large chunk of the nation would rather be entertained by pie fights and unholy wrestling ring marriages than by straightforward grappling, they are now guessing that this new patriotic boom, which has led a country to deify Bruce Springsteen and Lee Iacocca, will keep at a minimum public pressure to give The Iron Sheik and Nikolai a chance to regain their titles.

And to ensure against a backlash when the time comes and the Communists demand a title match, it appears as if the WWF is already laying its clever groundwork: The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff seemed to have their match against Davey Boy Smith and the Dynamite Kid well in hand when the two teams met recently at New York's Madison Square Garden.

As Volkoff lifted Smith up for a crunching body slam, the Dynamite Kid leaped off the top rope with a well-aimed dropkick that landed on his partner's back and felled the huge Russian with Smith on top for a pin. Tapes of the match clearly show the



Volkoff, one of the strongest men in professional sport, crushes Windham's ribs (above). Windham sinks to his knees under the Sheik and Volkoff's double-team assault (right). Volkoff lifts Rotundo in a most undignified way (bottom right).



illegality of the Kid's move, but no effort has been made to alter the decision, despite several protests from The Iron Sheik, Nikolai Volkoff, and their manager, Freddie Blassie.

The bottom line supercedes all else. What's left from the night's match, fought before 19,000 people and beamed to a nationwide cable audience, is an all-too-visible notch in the Communists' loss column. And you can bet that's one graphic that will be the chief topic when the Sheik and Volkoff sit down in the plush offices of the fervently capitalistic WWF and want to discuss title matches.

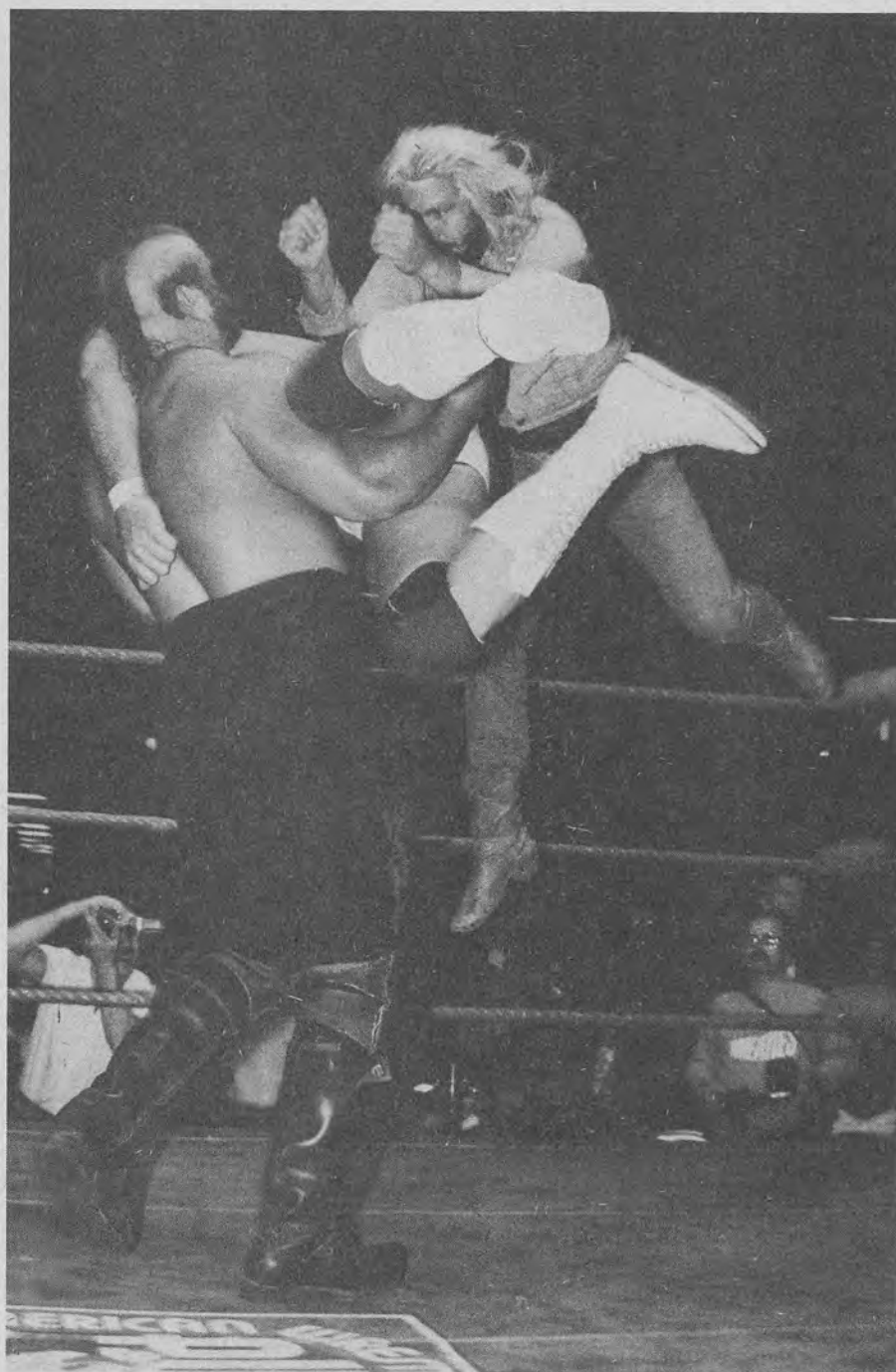
Attempts as these to enshroud the skills of The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff, however thin and transparent as they might appear, do the trick. It's the WWF's way of



working the crowd, and they do it better than Richard Pryor. A Tito Santana or Junkyard Dog can appeal to the masses, mount letter-writing campaigns, scream no fair, and nine

times out of 10 they'll see results. The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff, feared and hated, have no recourse. It's an ignoble way to send two ex-champions packing. □

● The Road Warriors: Were They Getting Too Big For The AWA?



As Animal lifts Jim Garvin for what was assumed to be a match-ending backbreaker, he looks up to see Michael Hayes leaping from the turnbuckles. Hayes would come crashing down on Garvin, who would fall on Animal, knocking him unconscious for the pin.

SOME MEN ARE reared to rule. Others are born to boogie. The Road Warriors preen in the presence of pain. They are honed to hurt, primed to punish. There is an existence of resistance. They conduct catastrophe better than Bernstein batons Beethoven. Today they are cast uncharacteristically. They sit quietly, with the drawn looks of students, discussing strategy with the brains behind their brawn, Paul Ellering.

Hawk's feet are on the desk, not minding that the bottoms of his boots serve as testimony to the dirtiness of our big-city streets. The smell is eye-watering, although Hawk appears oblivious. Not so Animal.

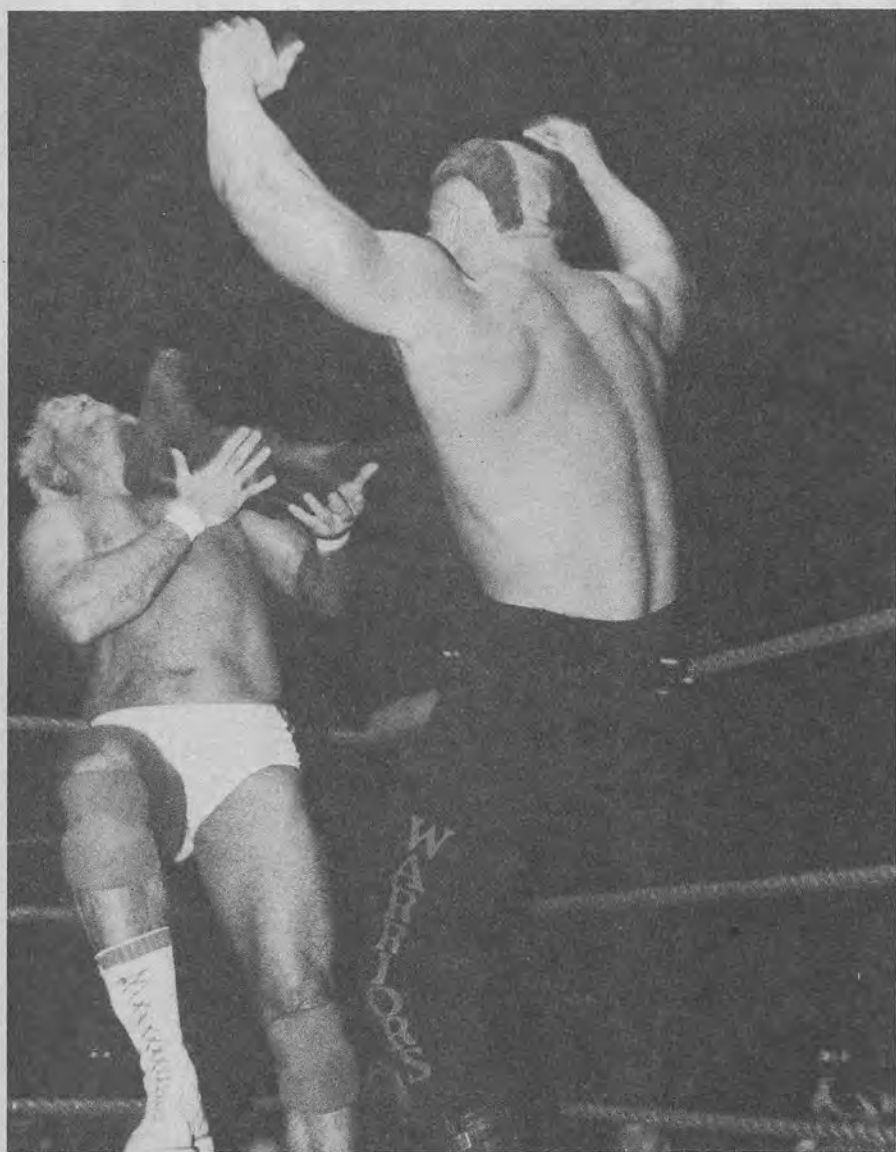
"Dammit, man, will you go in and wash those boots. I'm gonna throw up in a second."

"An odor that would no doubt improve the smell of Hawk's boots," observes Ellering.

"I like the smell, boys," Hawk explains, drawing worried looks from his colleagues. "It reminds me of what I've been eating lately. It reminds me of what I'm going to turn the Freebirds into. And what I'm going to make Garvin and Regal swallow."

Ellering and Animal look at each other. They turn to Hawk and take deep breaths, drawing them in, sucking them down like sour memories.

The Road Warriors, most everyone agrees, have been had. Duped, denied, and unceremoniously dumped. The most explosive tag team in professional wrestling lost their belts not as expected, in a cloud of nuclear



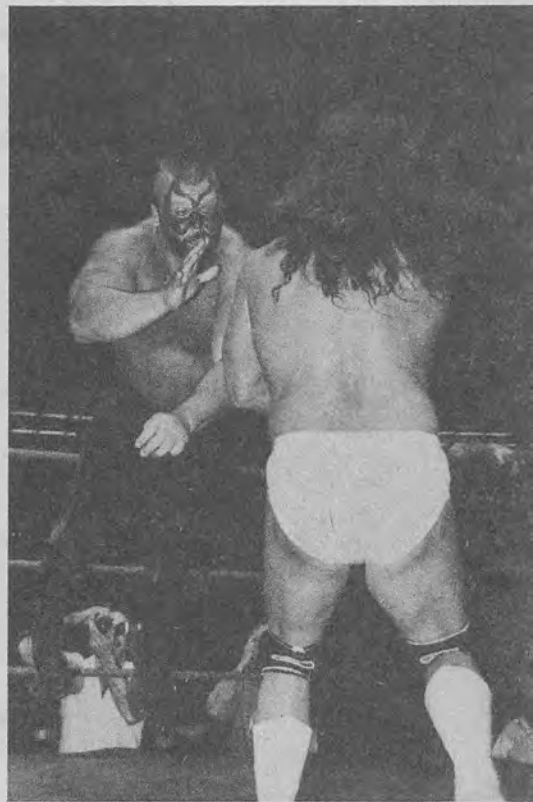
dust, but by the limp ministrations of bureaucracy. In the end, it was not some mysterious combination of strength and speed that defeated The Road Warriors; rather, it was the decisions of three-piece suits, of men whose knowledge of the ring is limited to which is more cost effective, cotton or polyurethane padded turnbuckles, that lost Hawk and Animal the title they defended invincibly for well over a year.

It happened like this: The Road Warriors were in St. Paul, Minnesota, scheduled to meet the team of Jim Garvin and Steve Regal. For the Warriors this night was to be routine. To

them victory had become instinctual, an epiglottis guarding a windpipe. Another triumph, another chapter added to their best-selling tome of *How To Become Living Legends*. Before the match, Hawk spoke about piledriving Regal and Garvin *at the same time*. Animal kidded about a double-bodyslam. The musings of super-heroes. The daydreams of demi-gods.

The match went as the bookies, who had tagged Garvin and Regal at 45-1 to defeat the Warriors, 125-1 to defeat them and capture the belts, had predicted. Steve Regal became Play-Doh in Hawk and Animal's hands.

The Road Warriors were having their way with Garvin and Regal before the illegal conclusion. Hawk lifts his boot into Regal's jaw (left). Animal dives shoulder-first into Garvin (below).



He was positioned in ways that were thought to be anatomically impossible, not to mention unnatural. He cried in pain like a schoolgirl who's discovered her first boyfriend kissing someone else behind the bushes.

Garvin was treated less brusquely, but only because Gorgeous Jim thought nothing of sliding across the ring kneefirst, begging for mercy. Garvin's burlesque amused the Warriors and they limited their punishment on him to a couple of random bodyslams and power headlocks.

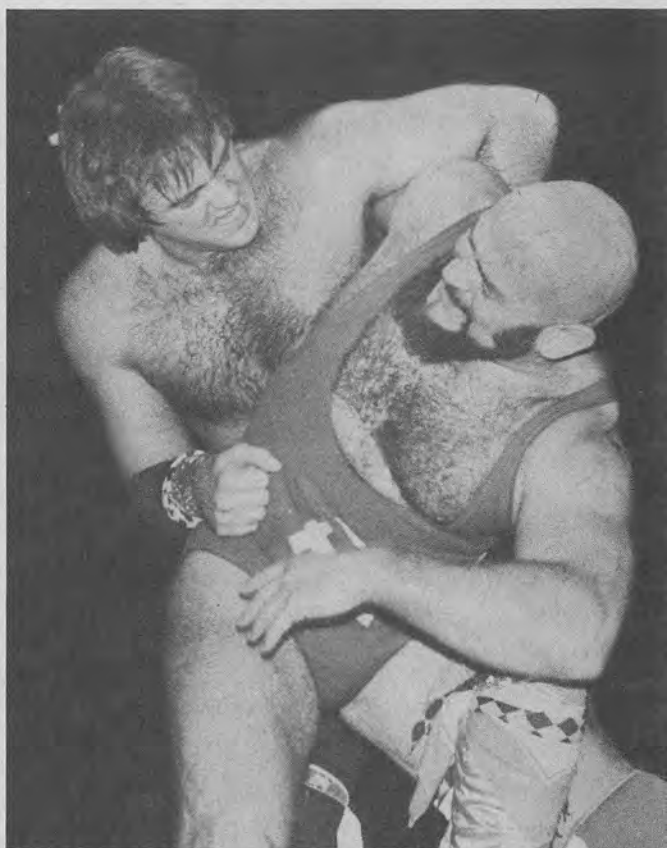
After 12 minutes, the Warriors became bored. From across the ring, Hawk and Animal exchanged nods. The crowd sensed a kill was in the making. Animal peppered Garvin with a crunching clothesline and then lifted the mangy-haired Gorgeous One off his feet, setting him up for a
(Continued on page 56)

WORLD TAG TITLES IN TURMOIL !

● The Rock 'n' Roll Express: Did NWA Officials Turn Their Backs on Morton and Gibson?



Rick Morton keeps an eye on Ivan Koloff as Robert Gibson attaches a chain to the turnbuckle brace (above). Gibson turns Ivan into a pretzel with his abdominal stretch (right).



... and there go Morton and Gibson, whoa! A double dropkick sends Ivan Koloff hurtling out of the ring and the Russian takes referee Tommy Young with him. This is unbelievable! Koloff, Khrushchev, and referee Tommy Young are rolling around the cement floor. Gibson is holding up Nikita in the ring and there goes Morton climbing the top rope with the chain. Whoa! Morton smashes Nikita in the head with the chain. Nikita is down. Nikita is down. Gibson has him covered for the pin, but Young is still out of the ring. Gibson still has him covered. It must

be 10 seconds by now.

Gibson has now gotten up and is searching for the referee. He's out of the ring and—whoa! Krusher Khrushchev delivers a vicious punch to the back of his head. Gibson is down.

Ivan Koloff rises to his feet and moves back into the ring. He's wrapping his chain around the turnbuckle. Morton is moving over toward him, but Nikita grabs Rick. He throws him into the ropes. Morton comes off with a vertical bodyblock but—whoa! Nikita grabs Morton in mid-air and hurls him into

the chained turnbuckle. Ricky Morton is unconscious. Nikita covers him for the pin. And look at this! Look at this! Khrushchev is waking up Tommy Young. He's leading Young by the hand into the ring. Young is counting. One! Two! Three! It's over. She's all over. The Koloffs are the new NWA World tag team champions.

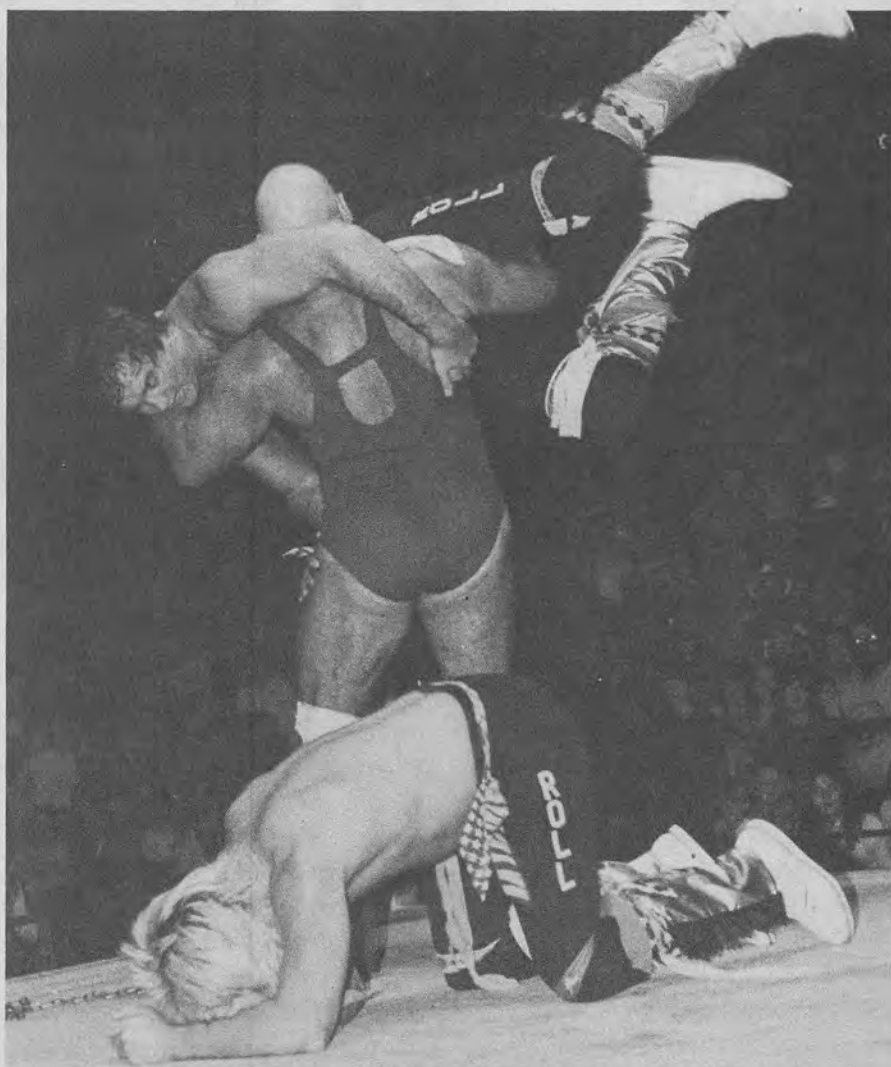
RICK MORTON REFERS to the Russian trio of Ivan and Nikita Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev as the "Spud Boys" although his reasoning is obscure. Robert Gibson thinks its either due to the startling uniformity

of their polished heads or the fact that vodka is distilled from potatoes. Gibson himself has dubbed them "The Three Stooges," his explanation being that he "calls them as he sees them." It's hard to think that the Russians are calling The Rock 'n' Roll Express anything but "chumps" since they defeated the pair on October 13 to recapture the NWA tag team championship.

A cloud of confusion hangs over that day in Charlotte, North Carolina, although according to Morton it's more like a cloud of pollution. "The NWA went out of their way to steal our belts," he says bitterly. "It's one thing to allow the three of those spuds to wrestle as a tag team. That's bad enough. That means they can wrestle every night and always have a fresh body. Right there that's an unfair advantage.

"But to allow all of them to be around ringside during a match is

A groggy Morton cannot be of any help to his partner, who is about to be slammed by Ivan (right). The Rock 'n' Rolls try to turn Ivan into a soprano (below). Soon Nikita would play a major role in the match, which would ultimately be decided by Krusher Khrushchev.



inviting trouble. We told the NWA officials that something was going to happen. It always has in the past. But they told us that their hands were tied. They are an official tag team and all members of the team can be present during the match. They refused to allow us to station a man at ringside, and they refused to let another official stand guard near Khrushchev.

"We were fed a lot of bureaucratic horsebleep and then we had our faces shoved in it. We started out by wrestling Ivan and Nikita Koloff and we lost the belts to Krusher Khrushchev. You get so frustrated that you want to scream. The Russians are just doing what they've
(Continued on page 54)

HOTSEAT

MIKE VON ERICH

"I AIM TO BE STRONGER THAN EVER"

THERE IS NOTHING middle-of-the-road about the Von Erich family. Since Fritz, the founding father, ravished opponents across the United States 20 years ago, the surname Von Erich had implied intensity, commitment to purpose, and a composite skill second to none.

Of course, today's generation of Von Erichs are less roughhewn, more palatable, and slightly smoother than their patriarch. Kerry, Kevin, and Mike Von Erich are more inclined toward the cheers of the fans, although their levels of commitment and skill remain in the upper echelons of the sport.

The toughest battles the Von Erich family has fought, however, have occurred far from the wrestling ring. Their tragedy—a tragedy shared with their millions of fans—has occurred in hospital rooms and backyards, in grieving living rooms and funeral hall parlors.

Jack, the oldest child of Fritz and Dottie Von Erich, was electrocuted while playing in the family's backyard. He was five years old. Their third eldest child, David, loved throughout the wrestling world, passed away in Japan two years ago. David was 22.

Finally there is Mike, the second youngest. Several months ago, Mike

contracted toxic shock syndrome following an operation on his shoulder. His chances of survival were so dim that last rites were administered by an attending priest.

In true Von Erich fashion though, Mike defied all odds and survived. His recovery is now complete and he has begun tentatively working out in the hopes of a mid-1986 return to the ring. Managing Editor Stu Saks spoke with

“
When you're lying in a hospital bed with tubes coming out of every part of your body, you have to latch on to something. I was fortunate to have thousands and thousands of people.
”

Mike about his illness, his career, and the spectre of death that hangs over his family.

Q: I can't tell you how good it is to see you healthy, Mike. You had not only us at the magazine, but

an entire country rooting for you. It's great to have you back.

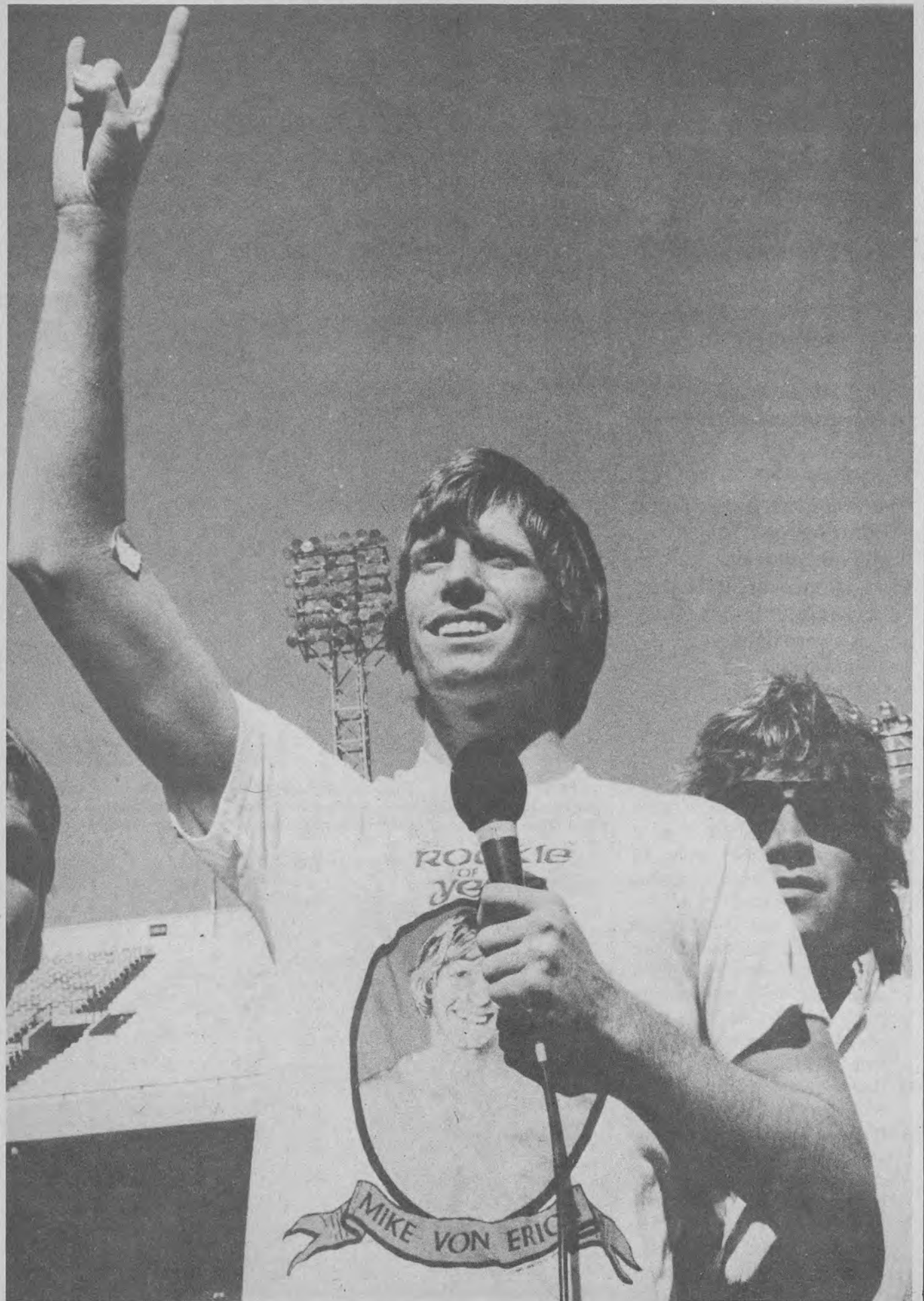
A: Thank you, Stu, I really appreciate your kind words. I've said it before and I mean it now more than ever: Without the support of my friends, my family, and the fans, I don't know if I would have made it. When you're lying in a hospital bed with tubes coming out of every part of your body, you have to latch on to something. I was fortunate enough to have the love of thousands and thousands of people. As far as me being healthy, though, that's not entirely true. Naturally I'm healthier than I was, but I've still got a long way to go. As you can tell, I've dropped about 60 pounds. I feel like a scarecrow.

Q: How's the shoulder?

A: That's another problem. It's still sore. It still hurts. The worst thing is that it's kept me out of the gym. The doctors have given the okay to begin rehabilitation, but the shoulder injury prevents me from lifting real heavy weights.

Q: I understand that you want to come back to the ring heavier than you ever were.

A: That's correct, Stu. I'm used to





“

The Von Erich family is one unit. I guess a tragedy makes you realize how fortunate you are to be part of a close-knit family. Ours is a very tight, very supportive family.

”

wrestling at around 220-225. I aim to return at around 240. I aim to be stronger than ever. Being sick like I was is an incredibly sobering experience. I lied in bed, helpless, for weeks on end. I was so weak that someone had to feed me. When you've been in that position, you realize how important your health is. Kerry and Kevin are a pair of bulls. I aim to get as big as them.

Q: How did your brothers react to your illness?

A: Oh, heck. Those two are about the greatest guys in the world. And don't let me forget about my baby brother Chris. He was right in there the whole time, too. I just remember hearing their voices. I can remember them saying to me 'C'mon, boy, we're with you,

Mike. We love you, Mike. Come back to us, Mike.' I think about it now I get a lump in my throat.

Q: Did you ever think that you weren't going to make it?

A: Well, I don't think I ever realized how serious my condition was until afterward. When I left home to go to the hospital my fever was up to 105 degrees. Then I just slipped into semi-consciousness. I never felt in danger of dying. I guess having my family around gave me security. And all those people praying for me. I felt their strength was with me all of the time, too.

Q: Who was the most affected by David's death? Do you think that it brought the family closer together? And how did your illness affect your parents, coming as it did practically on the heels of David's death?

A: Just because he was the youngest, I'm tempted to say Chris was the most affected, but the more I think about it, I don't think that's true. The Von Erich family is one unit. We were very close before David's death. I guess a tragedy makes you realize how fortunate you are to be part of a close-knit family, but I don't think a tragedy brought us

any closer together than we already were. Ours is a very tight, very supportive family. How did my illness affect my parents? My parents have been through a lot in their lifetime. If I had one wish it would be for their uninterrupted happiness for the rest of their lives. God knows they deserve it. My illness shook them up very much, as much as David's death, because we were both so healthy. They came as complete shocks. You know the



Von Erich and his doctor, William Sutker, were just a couple of fans at the Cotton Bowl (above). Just a few months earlier, Sutker quarterbacked a team of doctors to a victory over Mike's case of toxic shock syndrome. Mike is welcomed back by his fans on the other side of the Cotton Bowl (below).



doctors never told my mother how serious my condition was. Thank the Lord that everything worked out.

Q: Once you get back into the ring, what will some of your immediate goals be?

A: My immediate goal, of course, is to just get back into the ring. I'll probably begin by wrestling in tag teams with Kevin and Kerry, just to work my way slowly back. Before I got sick, I had two tight matches against Ric Flair that I thought could have gone either way. I would like to get back into that position again. I think at 240 pounds I'd give Flair a run for his money.

Q: Besides winning the Americas title, Brian Adidas stepped right into your place alongside Kerry and

Kevin in their six-man tag team. Do you anticipate any heat between yourself and Brian once you're ready to come back?

A: Oh no, no way. Brian and I and the rest of the family are very close. Brian was at the hospital as much as anyone. I think now that our cousin Lance is wrestling in the area, there will be plenty of opportunity for all of us to mix up the teams and wrestle in different combinations. There is no ego clash between Brian and myself. We're good friends.

Q: How did you like the way your brothers clipped Gino Hernandez and Chris Adams at the Cotton Bowl?

A: Aww, wasn't that just great! I was watching from the dressing room and I was dying to get in on the



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Before I got sick, I had two tight matches with Ric Flair. I would like to get back in that position again. I think at 240 pounds, I could give Flair a run for his money.

”



Von Erich clamps an armbar on Gorgeous Jim Garvin during a match in March. When Mike gets back in the ring, he expects to be in better physical condition than he ever was.

action. Now those guys look like a bunch of geeks. It's a sound reflection of the way they act.

Q: Did your illness change the way you feel about life in general?

A: I guess it's a feeling shared by everyone who's been close to death. I've got this renewed sense of time. Now I don't feel like wasting a single moment. Every day, I wake up and am excited to get out and do something. There's a reason why I'm the only athlete ever to recover from this kind of disease, and I don't plan on dawdling around with whatever time I've got left.

Q: Cliche or not Mike, it couldn't happen to a nicer guy. Good luck, buddy.

A: Thanks, Stu. Thank you very much. □

The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One

ONE ON ONE

IT WAS THE most horrible incident that Atlanta wrestling fans had witnessed in years.

In late September, Ric Flair was defending his NWA World heavyweight title against Nikita Koloff in a steel cage match in Atlanta's Omni. At the end of the match, Nikita's uncle Ivan and Krusher Khrushchev ran into the ring and helped Nikita in a triple-team on Flair.

To the jubilant cheers of the crowd, Dusty Rhodes charged the ring and chased the Russians back to their dressing room. As if in reply, Ole and Arn Anderson ran into the cage and attacked Dusty. Flair, who had up to this point been lying on the mat exhausted and bloody, crawled over to the cage door and locked it.

What happened next shocked and stunned the 10,000-plus fans in the Omni that night: Flair helped the Andersons triple-team "The American Dream!"

Sam Houston, Magnum T.A., and The Rock 'n' Roll Express succeeded in clearing the ring, but not before Dusty sustained a broken left ankle in the savage attack. Doctors ordered that he remain out of the ring for at least six weeks.

In the wake of this incredible event, fans around the world have flooded the offices of *Inside Wrestling* with letters demanding Flair be stripped of the NWA World title for his participation



"Far be it for me to threaten someone who can't even walk on his own two feet. Would I kick a man when he's down?"

—Ric Flair

in the crippling of Dusty Rhodes.

We may not have any power to influence NWA President Bob Geigel in such a decision, but we have passed those letters on to him. Meanwhile, we managed to get Rhodes and Flair to agree to discuss this incident . . . "One on One."

DUSTY RHODES:

Let me tell you something right now you no-good, dirty, two-timing, sneaky son-of-a- . . .

RIC FLAIR:

Whoa! Slow down there, Mr. American Dream, you wouldn't want to blow your sainthood here, now would you?

DR: Don't get smart with me, Flair, I've had about all I'm gonna take from you.

RF: You haven't even had the begin-

ning of what you're going to take from me.

DR: Are you threatening me?

RF: Far be it from me to threaten someone who can't even walk on his own two feet! Would I kick a man when he's down?

DR: Ooooooh, *BABY!* Just get me offa these here crutches, and you're gonna get the whuppin' of your life like your mamma should have done to you a long time ago!

RF: Please, please, as long as we're both guests at this forum of discussion, why don't we try and conduct ourselves like gentlemen? Or should I say, why don't you try and conduct yourself like a gentleman, for I always . . .

DR: Hold it right there, Ric Flair. You know, I've had it up to here

N ONE



"Just get me offa these crutches, and you're gonna get the whuppin' of your life like your mama should have done to you!"

—Dusty Rhodes

with your nonsense. You're always going around the wrestling world, strutting like a rooster in heat, saying that you walk like a champion, you talk like a champion, you sell tickets at the arenas like a champion. You ain't no champion, Flair, you're nothing but a sick, twisted . . .

RF: Now there you go again.

DR: Damn right, there I go again! I'm on these crutches because of you, Flair. I'm out of wrestling because of you. I'm suffering pain, you know what I'm saying. Physical pain. Mental anguish. And that ain't nothing compared to what you gonna be suffering when I get done with you.

RF: I'm trembling.

DR: What do you think, it's all a one-way street? Wrestling marches to

the drumbeat of Ric Flair and that's that?

RF: Something like that.

DR: Well let me tell you, Flair, you who are so proud of that 10 pounds of gold around your waist, you who are so proud of your custom clothes and personal airplanes and limousines and whatnot, you who are so proud of what you think you stand for. Let me tell you, you stand for *nothing!* You have nothing, because you *are* nothing.

RF: Your wit cuts me to the bone like Jonathan Swift.

DR: Don't be trying to wiseguy your way out of this one, Flair, 'cause I want to tell the world the *truth* about your sorry self.

RF: Oh, is that so? And what truth is that, may I ask?

DR: The truth is that I helped you, Flair, I helped you because you were being triple-teamed by them dirty Russians, and you know how I feel about the Koloffs and Khrushchev, but if I had to do it all over I'd let them pick your bones clean like a bunch of vultures.

RF: And you think I . . .

DR: *SHUT UP!* This the "The American Dream" talking now, and I don't want no interruptions. I'm telling the *truth* about you, Flair, I'm telling the facts. And the facts are number one: I saved your sorry hide from those Russians. Fact number two: I'm sorry I did that. Fact number three: After I saved you, Ole and Arn Anderson came in to attack me. Fact number four: You helped Ole and Arn. Fact number five: I was carried out of that ring with a broken ankle . . .

RF: Fact number six: If you can't stand the heat, my man, stay out of the championship kitchen.

DR: I can take the heat, Flair, and I can kick your butt from Atlanta to Charlotte to Tampa and back again, but there ain't no way anyone should have to take a three-on-one attack from anyone. That's why I came in to help you, but you as much as spit in my face. You turned on me. That makes you less of a man than any of those stinking Russians could ever hope to be. You're scum, Flair, and you're going to pay for what you did.

RF: I'm the NWA World champion, the singlemost important man in the sport of professional wrestling today. I don't have to listen to this crap. [Hangs up the phone.]

DR: Go ahead, Flair, turn your back on me like the coward you are. You can run, but you ain't gonna be able to hide. I want you, Flair. When I'm off these crutches, I want you. You'll be dead meat when I'm through with you. You'll be a dead-meat-titleless-beat-to-the-bone-former-champion, you mother! □

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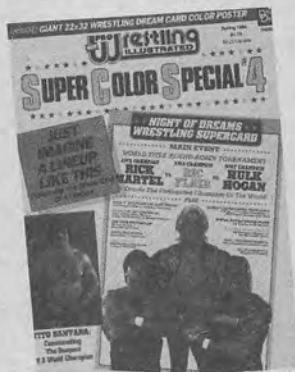
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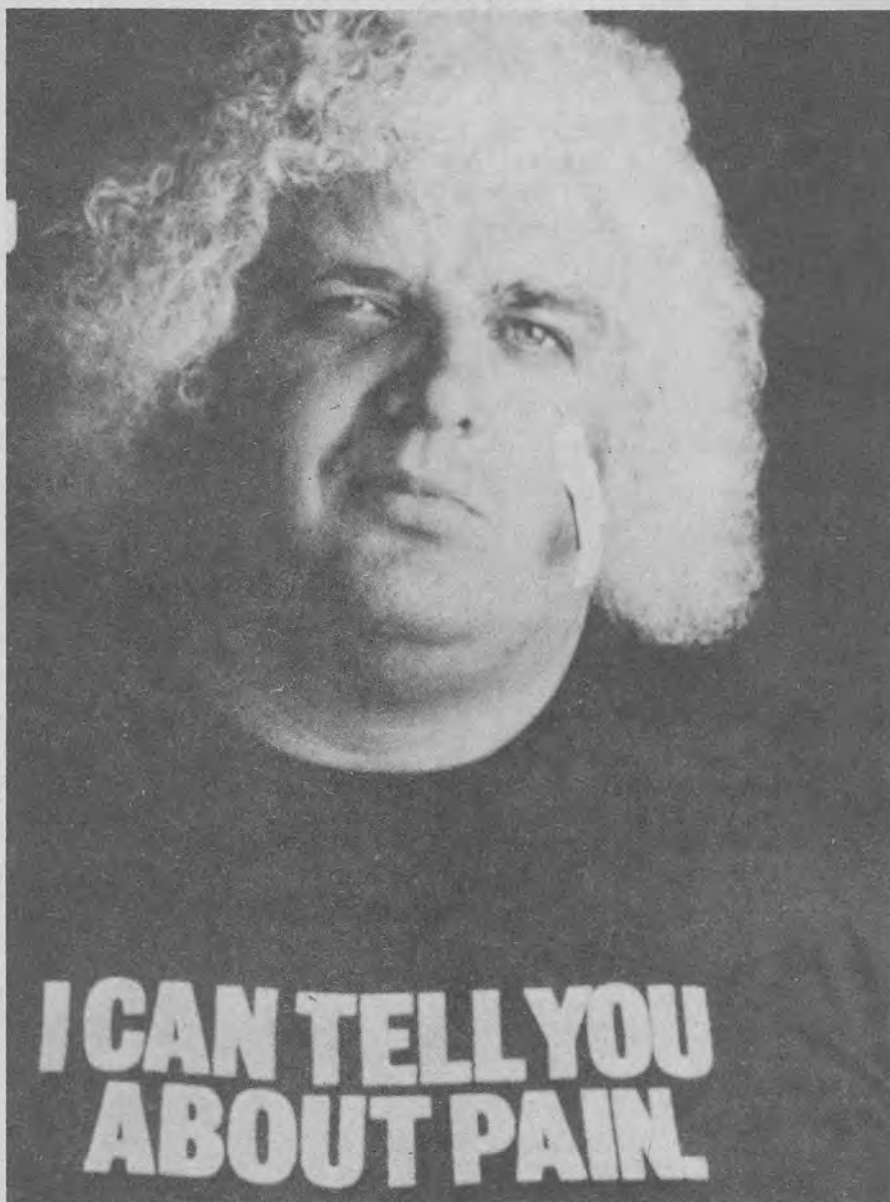
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DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 10)



The T-shirt Dusty Rhodes wears indicates that "The American Dream" has a sense of humor about the punishment he takes. Whether he realizes it or not, his body will have the last laugh.

or other tissues around a joint. If you're walking along and you accidentally turn your ankle, it hurts for the moment. You've sprained your ankle slightly, but most of the time the pain will subside quickly. Compare that sprain to what might happen if a 243-pound man leaped upon your ankle from a height of five feet. Dusty's doctor, Joseph J. Estwanik of the Metrolina Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Clinic, strongly recommended an operation. Dusty declined. He had something else on his mind. Revenge.

As soon as Dusty was able to

stand on his ankle, he went into heavy training for his grudge match with Flair. The pain was by no means gone, but the ankle was strong enough to carry his 302 pounds. Rhodes might get through his rigorous training sessions without reinjuring the ankle and he might even get through the match with Flair without incident (although Flair is expected to gear his attack at the ankle). But Dusty is asking his ankle to do something it is not ready to do, and at one point his ankle is going to have a grudge match against him.

Pain is the body's way of telling

you there's something wrong. If you choose to disregard that message and perform with pain, you are running the risk of suffering what the medical profession refers to as a "chronic repetitive mismanagement injury." An injury of that nature cannot be helped by an operation.

Dr. James Nicholas, the New York Jets' orthopedic surgeon, tried to explain the concept of pain in a recent article in the Long Island newspaper *Newsday*. "We know there's electrical excitation in the sensory conveyor system that carries waves to the brain. We know certain chemicals inhibit pain—opiates, analgesics ... what we don't know is where the pain centers are located in the brain and why different people have different tolerances to it."

Rhodes does not believe in taking drugs to relieve pain. He'd rather tough it out than try to mask the symptoms, which is smart. But what is not smart is ignoring those symptoms entirely. The body can work on its own to relieve pain. Dr. Ronald Kanner, director of the unified pain service at Albert Einstein-Montefiore Medical Center, was quoted in the *Newsday* article as saying that the brain and spinal cord "manufacture a chemical substance with the properties of morphine that relieves pain."

While the body can create its own natural "drugs" to relieve pain, it cannot repair on its own an injury as drastic as the one Dusty Rhodes suffered at The Omni.

"What does The American Dream know about all them medical things? All I know is that if I can stand on these here feet, I'm gonna put Ric Flair on his seat," Rhodes said, simplifying things as only he can.

But the human body is not that simple, Dusty. And the things you are getting away with today will come back to haunt you a few years from now. Your body is pretty smart. It knows what it can handle and it knows how to communicate with you. Don't ignore it. It's the only one you've got, and it's not very forgiving. ☐

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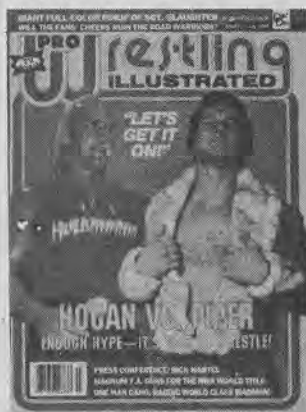
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September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. **SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The PWI Years.**

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. PLUS: Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

December 1984/COLOR POSTER: Kerry Von Erich. Cover story: Barry Windham. PLUS: Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.

January 1985/COLOR POSTER: Tito Santana. Cover story: Road Warriors. PLUS: Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR POSTER: Magnum T.A. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

March 1985/SPECIAL YEAR-END AWARDS ISSUE! FOUR PAGE COLOR SECTION: Billy Jack, Roddy Piper, Ric Flair vs. Kerry Von Erich; PLUS: 1984—The Year In Review.

April 1985/COLOR POSTER: Ronnie Garvin. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

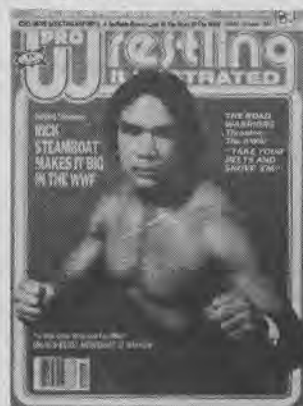
May 1985/COLOR POSTER: Road Warriors. **SPECIAL TAG TEAM ISSUE!** Cover story: Fabulous Ones & Rock 'n' Roll Express. PLUS: Windham & Rotundo, Von Erich & Billy Haynes, PWI Rates Top 15 teams.

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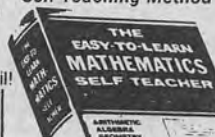
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ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(Continued from page 41)



His air supply running low, Gibson reaches out for his tag team partner. Given their challengers' strength, the contract stipulations, and the prematch rulings of the NWA, the Rock 'n' Rolls went into this title defense as heavy underdogs. Nikita and Ivan celebrate their victory as referee Tommy Young tries to regain his faculties (opposite right).

always done. I can't even blame them. It's the damn officials who Bobby and I are steamed at. A blind man could see this coming. I just wish a blind man was on the NWA commission."

Their lamentations are not shrill cries of protest. Yet, despite the legitimacy of their complaints, one must wonder if Morton and Gibson had their headphones turned up too loud when they agreed to this match in the first place. No time limit. No disqualifications. Each team allowed to bring into the ring a tire chain. Ivan Koloff couldn't believe it.

"They play right into our hands," the veteran said, shaking his bald pate. "It amazing how stupid Americans are sometimes. They talk

about pride. Big deal, pride! We now the champions. They are nothing but *ptooooie*." Koloff colored his last statement with a well-aimed sphere of spittle, which he deposited skillfully in the bronze spittoon beside his desk.

The Russian has lately taken a fancy to the peculiarly American custom of tobacco chewing. With his mouth working like an oil derrick in heat, he continued: "Russians are the smartest men in the world because we best at taking advantage of others' weaknesses," he spat, literally. "Now that we have the title again, no one can take it from us. And when Nikita wins NWA title, Koloffs control wrestling world."

Koloff has a point. The Rock 'n' Roll

Express owe their success in large measure to their ability to avoid the punishment usually dispensed by men like Ivan and Nikita Koloff. They move around the ring like wind wisps, their arrival and departure nearly simultaneous. For the pair of 225-pounders to battle a man like Nikita Koloff on his own terms—head to head with a chain and no disqualifications—is a decision that appears to lack sound judgment.

"We had a very good reason," differs Robert Gibson. "After we beat the Koloffs for the title, everyone accused us of lucking out. Since we beat Khrushchev and Ivan, they thought that we waltzed in by not having to wrestle Nikita. We aimed to show the world that we were for real.



We were the ones who wanted a no-disqualification rule. We wanted the chain clause. After this match was over, we wanted there to be no way that anyone could say we didn't deserve to be world champions.

"We controlled the entire match. The entire match. And Ricky had Nikita pinned for close to 10 seconds, but the referee was knocked outside the ring by Khrushchev. If the NWA had listened to us, none of this would have happened. We would have beaten the Koloffs at their own game, fair and square. Instead, we got the belts stolen from us. We was robbed, pure and simple." □



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ROAD WARRIORS

(Continued from page 39)

match-ending over-the-knee backbreaker.

Now there comes a time in every man's life when the brain and the soul must sit down over coffee and have it out. Choice is never simple, but it is necessary. It doesn't work if the noggin and the heart are at odds. In the life of Michael Hayes, it has been said that the heart has always overruled the brain. This night in St.



Paul did nothing to alter such opinions.

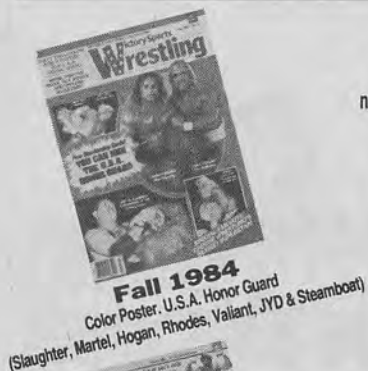
As Animal prepared to end Jim Garvin's night, Michael Hayes, in streetclothes, leapt from the crowd, scaled the turnbuckle, and pounced upon Garvin's upraised body, sending the three of them—Animal, Garvin and Hayes—crashing to the mat.

The referee missed this choice bit of action since his attention was outside of the ring where Buddy Roberts, Hawk, and Ellering were thrashing it out. Hayes placed Garvin on top of the unconscious Animal and left the ring to alert the referee of the pin. The referee counted to three and declared Garvin and Regal the new AWA tag team champions.

In the ensuing confusion only one thing is certain. Ellering, showing the presence of mind for which he is re-

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Hawk hits Regal with an uppercut (opposite left). Regal, the reigning AWA junior heavy-weight champion, and Garvin pose with Precious and their newly—and illegally—won AWA championship belts.

known, immediately filed a protest with the AWA offices. In fact, after they had cleared the arena of The Freebirds and after their adrenaline had settled enough to allow for a press conference, Hawk was quoted as saying, "We got nothing to worry about. The videotapes of the match will show everything. This kind of thing happens all the time in the AWA. Martel has lost his belt twice and both times they reversed the decision. After they see what Hayes did, they'll probably suspend him."

Later that night, as the Legion of Doom prepared to fly home, Ellering called an impromptu press conference at the airport, during which he said, "I have assurances from the AWA offices that this matter is under scrutiny even as we speak. I expect a judgment to be rendered either late tonight or early tomorrow morning."

Such assurances proved misleading. It would be almost 10 days before any word was issued from the AWA offices. During that time Ellering reportedly raged like a wounded buffalo. It wasn't unusual for him to call the AWA offices four and five times a day, barking incoherently at whoever was unfortunate enough to answer the phone.

The wait proved to be insufferable for the Warriors, men used to attend-

ing to the details of their lives themselves. "I stared at Hawk for five days. Then when he became too ugly I stared at the walls," revealed Animal.

Finally, on the morning of the 11th day, this statement was released by the office of AWA President Stanley Blackburn: *"The AWA is recognizing Jim Garvin and Steve Regal as its tag team champions. The referee's decision is final in all matters. Official Marty Miller saw Garvin pin Road Warrior Animal and we recognize his ruling as being final. Under no circumstances can a referee's decision be overruled."*

Blackburn addressed the heart of the Warrior's protest when he stated, *"There was no videotape of the match on this night."* It wasn't until *Inside Wrestling* threatened a full-scale investigation into the matter that the tape "magically" appeared. Despite the overwhelming evidence of outside interference, Blackburn remained steadfast. *"The AWA stands by its original decision that a referee's verdict is final. The ruling stands. Garvin and Regal are the champions."*

It remains unclear why the AWA has chosen this peculiar stand, when in the past they have routinely reversed decisions based on a review of the match videotape. They have been
(Continued on page 58)

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ROAD WARRIORS

(Continued from page 57)



AWA President Stanley Blackburn's ruling against The Road Warriors' protest is contrary to prior AWA policy.

less than fair with a pair of wrestlers who are arguably their biggest attraction.

Conventional wisdom has it that the AWA chiefs of state have been shaken by both The Road Warriors' recent threat to relinquish the tag team title if the AWA did not provide them with more challenging competition and also the Warriors' latest series of bouts against the NWA champion Koloffs—matches that have all been sellouts and that have filled the NWA coffers. Is Blackburn sending out a message to the Warriors? Is this thinly veiled admonishment designed to say to the Warriors, "No one dictates policy, no one bucks the system, no one is indispensable. The title belongs to the AWA and we can take it back from anyone we want, anytime we choose."

If it is, then Ellering's response is as blunt. "I know Hawk and Animal won't rest until Hayes and Roberts are put out of wrestling. Defeating Regal and Garvin will be no problem. And once we regain the belts it's just a matter of telling the AWA up what orifice they can stick them. We don't need them. They need us.

"Perhaps we have let down our guard too much. Perhaps it is time to remind everyone about how nasty we really are." □

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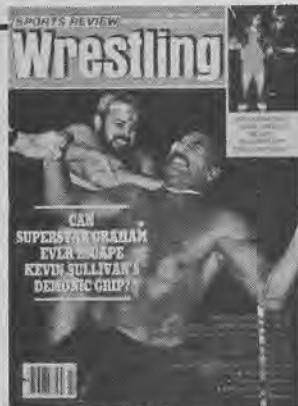
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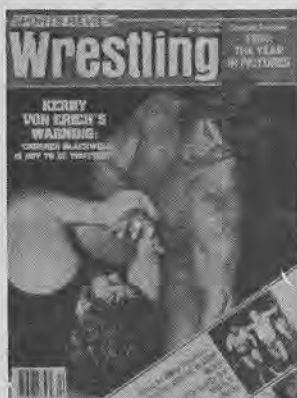
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FEBRUARY 1985

March 1978/Cover stories: Andre-Flair, Mascaras. PLUS: Koloff, Rhodes, Inoki.
August 1979/Cover story: Bruno-Koloff. PLUS: Flair, Orndorff, Funk.
September 1979/Cover story: Flair-McDaniel. PLUS: Garvin, Ladd, Rhodes.
February 1980/Cover story: Rhodes-Funk. PLUS: Race, Spoiler, Brisco.
April 1980/Cover stories: Andre, Mulligan-Studd. PLUS: LeDuc, Lawler, Ladd.
May 1980/Cover stories: Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler. PLUS: Graham, Andre.
June 1980/Cover stories: Graham, Patera. PLUS: Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.
July 1980/Cover story: Bruno-Graham. PLUS: Samoans, Star Wars 1980.
October 1980/Cover story: Hogan. PLUS: Flair, Wrestling II, Super D.
January 1981/Cover story: Morales-Fuji. PLUS: Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.
March 1981/Cover story: SPECIAL EDITION—Results of 1980 Fan Poll.
April 1981/Cover story: Atlas. PLUS: Flair, Moondogs, Wrestling II.
June 1981/Cover stories: Morales-Khan. PLUS: Lawler, Slater, Piper.
August 1981/Cover story: Freebirds. PLUS: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Brisco.
September 1981/Cover story: Backlund-Mosca. PLUS: Freebirds, Flair, Rich, Junkyard Dog.

October 1981/Cover stories: Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen. PLUS: Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.
November 1981/Cover story: Rhodes-DiBiase. PLUS: Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.
December 1981/Cover story: Muraco-Morales. PLUS: Patera, Steele, Andre.
March 1982/Cover stories: Valentine, Brisco-Funk. PLUS: Steele, Flair, Hayes.
April 1982/Cover stories: Spoiler, Idol-Hayes. PLUS: Morales, Super D, Ladd.
May 1982/Cover story: Rich-Flair. PLUS: Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.
June 1982/Cover stories: Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Wrestlers rate each other.
July 1982/Cover stories: Steamboat-Idol, Albano. PLUS: Rhodes, Patera.
August 1982/Cover stories: Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater. PLUS: Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.
September 1982/Cover stories: Von Erich, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Mascaras, Hansen, Rhodes, Blassie.
October 1982/Cover story: Funk-Abdullah. PLUS: Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.
November 1982/Cover story: Piper. PLUS: Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich.
December 1982/Cover stories: Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair. PLUS: Albano, Humberdink.
January 1983/Cover stories: Rich, McDaniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.
February 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.
March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass, Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat.
April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Graham, Brisco. PLUS: Rhodes, Hogan.
May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS: Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco.
June 1983/Cover stories: Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson. PLUS: Brody, Sullivan.
July 1983/Cover story: Valiant-Humberdink. PLUS: Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.



APRIL 1985

October 1983/Cover stories: Martel-Valentine, Mulligan. PLUS: Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.
November 1983/Cover stories: Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody. PLUS: Slater, Wrestling II, Backlund.
December 1983/Cover story: Windham-LeDuc. PLUS: Santana, Sullivan, Garvin, masked wrestlers.
January 1984/Cover stories: Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.
February 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen. PLUS: Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.
March 1984/Cover story: Starrcade '83 featuring Flair, Steamboat & Youngblood, Piper-Valentine. PLUS: Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.
April 1984/Cover stories: Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki. PLUS: Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.
May 1984/Cover stories: LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins. PLUS: The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!
June 1984/Cover stories: Windham-Flair, Gilbert. PLUS: Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.
July 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Gordy. PLUS: Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA Tag team tournament.

August 1984/Cover stories: Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes. PLUS: Zbyszko, Von Erich, The Faces Of Wrestling.
September 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.
October 1984/Cover stories: Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video. PLUS: Atlas, Spoiler, historic Orange Bowl card.
November 1984/Cover story: Von Erich & Billy Jack. PLUS: Andre, Fabulous Ones, The Summer Wars!
December 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Gilbert, Martel. PLUS: Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class action weekend.
January 1985/Cover stories: Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund. PLUS: Fabulous Ones, Pro Wrestling USA.
February 1985/Cover stories: Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts. PLUS: Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.
March 1985/Cover story: Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloff. PLUS: 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.
April 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich-Blackwell, Billy Haynes-Jesse Barr. PLUS: Hart, Irwins, 1985 in Pictures.
May 1985/Cover stories: Albano, Freebirds-Flair. PLUS: Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas closeup.
June 1985/Cover story: Pro Wrestling U.S.A. PLUS: Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.
July 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches. PLUS: Backlund, Snuka.
August 1985/Cover stories: Flair vs. Nikita. PLUS: Orndorff, Slaughter, Haynes, Parade of Champions II.
September 1985/Cover stories: Adams vs. Von Erich, Orndorff. PLUS: Sawyer, Kamala, Barr, Atlanta action.
October 1985/Cover stories: Martel vs. Hayes, Richter. PLUS: Savage, Adams, Magnum T.A., Road Warriors.
November 1985/Cover stories: Freebirds vs. Warriors, Mid-South action. PLUS: Billy Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.
December 1985/Cover stories: Hogan, Zbyszko vs. Martel. PLUS: Youngblood, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.

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ON THE ROAD

(Continued from page 12)



Okerlund's slanted viewpoint

"What'd he say?"

"He said, 'You gotta knock 'em down and rock 'em.' You think Vinnie knows how to slam dance?"

"Except for Vince and Gene Okerlund and Junkyard Dog, it looks like the bad guys get to do all the singing in this song. Hey, this guy sounds like he's got a pretty good voice."

"That's Jimmy Hart; he used to be with a real band called The Gentrys that actually had some hits back in the '60s. I see Randy Savage in the background, but he didn't sing any lyrics; I wonder if that got him mad?"

"Probably not, Hogan's not here, so he didn't have any lyrics, either. Then again, Jim Neidhardt has some lines. Think this means a Savage-Neidhardt feud? Who's that fat guy with the pig?"

"Uncle Elmer holding his pig! All right! I was wondering what had happened to Arnold Ziffel after *Green Acres* went off the air."

"Oh no, here it comes. Leave it to Roddy Piper to cause trouble. Why's he saying he hates rock 'n' roll now when he was singing his *na-na-na-na-nas* so well before?"

"Meat Loaf just threw a drum over to Orndorff and—*owtch!* That must have hurt Bobby Heenan."

"It's getting pretty ugly on that stage."

"Okerlund is trying to call the action, but there's too much going on to sort it all out. Now they're closing the curtain, and Gene's gonna escape the—oh, no, he didn't make it, he's getting dragged under the curtain back into the fight."

"This is like those wrestlers' weddings we saw. How come nobody threw a pie?"

I didn't have an answer for that one. ☐

BLACKJACK

(Continued from page 31)

As Barry blossomed, so will his younger brother. Look for Kendell to bottom out around 235 or 240. He wrestles lighter than Barry, who relies more on power moves. They both need more experience. What happened to Barry at WrestleMania should never happen to him again. That's where I come in. Although my children aren't crazy about my style, they can learn from it. I know what men like Fred Blassie and Nikolai Volkoff are capable of, and that's a knowledge that will be more valuable to Barry and Kendell than my cattle-breeding business.

If you're looking for me to come out and say that one son is better than the other, you're asking the wrong man. In my heart I feel that Barry and Kendell possess an equal amount of tools. There is very little difference between them. Naturally, at this stage of their careers, Barry is the more polished of the two.

Despite their success with titles and despite their lopsided won-lost records, the only real test of a wrestler as far as I'm concerned is longevity. You come back to me in 10 years and ask me about my sons. If they're still around, then I'll have a helluva story for the magazines. My hope is that one day they'll team up together seriously and go after a world tag team title. That's my hope. My dream is that one day the three of us can team up—before this old body gets too weary—and wrestle some six-man tags together. That'd be something, boy. What we would do in that ring together, I can get excited just thinking about it. You think my boys'll humor the old man with a match? I think they will. After all, they're good boys. Real good boys. Not like their dad—used to be.

You people have seen me wrestle lately though, haven't you? I ain't so bad anymore. I'm a regular pussycat. Ha. Ha. A real ol' pussycat. □

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SINCERELY

(Continued from page 6)

the personal lives of the players or their innermost thoughts. Players talk about their performances on the field. They do their jobs. Why don't you do yours? Bring us wrestling.

Without fans like myself, where would you be? We demand that you do your job. You are working for us. We pay your salary. Please do as you are supposed to.

The WWF is potentially a great organization. Stop damaging the integrity of fine sport and people who participate in it. Give wrestlers an honest chance for the recognition they deserve. You discredit many fine wrestlers by only allowing scientific wrestlers to grapple rulebreakers. Change your policies and your format, and you will find many more fans and supporters.

Think about it.

RANDY ALBRIGHT
San Angelo, TX

RUSSIAN CAVIAR

Nikita Koloff is the best wrestler ever to come out of Russia. Before his 25th birthday, he has held the NWA World and Six-Man tag team belts,



Nikita Koloff is so good, Ric Flair should avoid the embarrassment of losing to him and just hand over his NWA title, writes Christopher Tomlin.

and will capture the NWA heavyweight title before long. Nikita will easily defeat Ric Flair for the World title. I've enjoyed watching Flair over the years, but it is time for him to step aside and allow a legend to take root. Nikita will become the greatest wrestler of all time.

As his experience catches up with his physical tools, he will become a real threat to never lose another match. If Flair has half the class I think he has, he will abdicate his throne and allow Nikita to step up and claim the title. This would save Flair lots of pain and declare to the wrestling world just how great Nikita is.

CHRISTOPHER TOMLIN
Sumter, SC

NO HOUSE CALLS

"Dr. D" David Schultz is my favorite wrestler and I feel he is one of the toughest men ever to enter the ring.



After reading Ruby Mendiez's letter, David Shultz and a lot of other wrestlers should be tempted to wrestle in Hawaii.

Living in Hawaii, though, I get the feeling that I may never get to see him in person. There is no place on earth that can match the beauty of the islands and I wish that many of the big-name wrestlers would see this and make it their business to combine work and pleasure. After a hard-fought

match, they can unwind on the white sand of Diamondhead, enjoy the fresh tropical breeze, and relax in a way they never thought possible. Perhaps some type of international tournament could be set up on one of the islands that would attract wrestling's finest via the offer of a big grand prize. It's worth a shot.

RUBY MENDIEZ
Honolulu

KICK CRAZY

I loved your article in the November 1985 edition of *Inside Wrestling*, "Kabuki vs. Chris Adams: Not Just For Kicks." I'm a fan of Kabuki as well as "Gentleman" Chris Adams, and I was delighted to read about their match. Pitting their kicks against each other made for fascinating reading. I would love to see Kabuki and Adams featured in a "Capsule Profile" and/or a centerfold in *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*. I always enjoy your magazines. Keep up the good work.

DENISE MELANSON

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P.O. BOX 879, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441**

OKAY! Send me a supply of INSTANTAN and if it doesn't produce a better tan than the sun, or a lamp or pills I understand I can get my money back... no delay or questions...

☐ **Standard supply . . . \$6.95**
☐ **Double supply . . . 12.75**

I am adding \$1.00 to cover postage and handling.

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

GAIN ^{UP TO} 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise,
without unpleasant tasting medicines,
MEN—an impressive manly body,
WOMEN—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to meal-times, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs... as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear... if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit... embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly... your chest is too flat... your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be... If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh... so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER...

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straight-forward offer...

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try it for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better... If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt... even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS, Dept. G57

535 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10017

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for \$9.98
☐ SAVE \$2.00! Order 2 for \$17.96
☐ SAVE \$5.00! Order 3 for \$25.00

Enclosed is \$

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME

please print

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE



... a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

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